

THE
ARMY REGULATOR:
 OR, THE
 MILITARY ADVENTURES
 OF
Mr. JOHN RAILTON;
 GIVING

An Account of his particular Services in the
Horse Grenadiers, the Dragoons, the Foot,
 and the *Train of Artillery.*

SHEWING,

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| <p>I. The FRAUDS practis'd by the OFFICERS, from the <i>General</i> to the <i>Corporal</i>, to render the poor <i>Private Centinel</i> miserable.</p> <p>II. The <i>Art of Inlisting Men</i>: Or, the <i>Secret History</i> of a remarkable OFFICER of <i>Dragoons</i> in the Year, 1735.</p> <p>III. <i>Practices</i> after <i>Inlisting</i>, whereby the <i>Horses</i> are deprived of their <i>Corn</i>, the <i>Men</i> of their <i>Money</i>, and the <i>King</i> of his <i>Soldiers</i>, by <i>False Musters</i>.</p> <p>IV. PROOFS of 300<i>l.</i> a Year, being sunk out of the <i>King's</i> Allowance of 500<i>l.</i> a Year for a <i>Troop</i> of <i>Dragoons</i>.</p> <p>V. The <i>Sinking-Fund</i> continu'd; near 50,000<i>l.</i> a Year being sunk by <i>Fagots</i>, and 100,000<i>l.</i> a Year, by furnishing the <i>Forces</i> with <i>Accoutrements</i>, &c.</p> <p>VI. The AUTHOR'S <i>Sufferings</i>, as a <i>Foot-Soldier</i>, 1736. The <i>Connivance</i> of <i>Trad-</i></p> | <p><i>ing Justices</i> and <i>Serjeants</i>, as to <i>Inlisting</i>; his false <i>Imprisonment</i> and <i>Release</i>, 1737.</p> <p>VII. The <i>Transactions</i> of <i>Tea-Table-Officers</i>; how little they regard, and how frequently they break, the <i>Articles of War</i>.</p> <p>VIII. Of <i>Military-Punishments</i>, and the <i>Severities</i> inflicted upon <i>Soldiers</i> in the <i>Savoy</i>, <i>Black-Hole</i>, &c.</p> <p>IX. The <i>Honour</i> of the <i>Sword</i>; wherein is made appear that a real <i>Gentleman Soldier</i>, rightly educated, is the finest <i>Gentleman</i> in the <i>World</i>. The <i>Example</i> and <i>Character</i> of <i>Prince Eugene</i> recommended.</p> <p>X. <i>Articles of War</i>, and other valuable <i>Papers</i> relating to the <i>Regulation</i> of the <i>Army</i>. With the <i>Artifices</i> made use of to prevent the <i>Publication</i> of this <i>Book</i>.</p> |
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The Whole Addressed to his MAJESTY.

L O N D O N:

Printed for *W. Warner*, under the *Crown Coffee-House*, against *Bedford-Row*, *Holbourn*; *O. Payne*, in *Round-Court* in the *Strand*; *J. Jackson*, in *St. James's Street*; and *J. Vokes*, on *Ludgate-Hill*. 1738.

1801

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1803

1804

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1806





TO THE
K I N G's
MOST EXCELLENT
M A J E S T Y.

Sir,



HIS bold Attempt,
in offering these fol-
lowing Sheets to the
Perusal of an illuf-
trious Monarch, might very
juſtly be eſteem'd the higheſt

A 2

Arro-

iv *Dedication.*

Arrogance and Presumption, provided the Subject treated of did not fully demonstrate, that, I not only endeavour to fight my own, but also my King and Country's Cause ; for which Reason, and from a Sensibility of your Royal Benignity, and ardent Desire for Justice, ariseth my great Confidence of obtaining your Royal Favour and Patronage to my following Works, but still more particularly, as my Actions, during my Service, have been directed according to your Majesty's most sacred Orders and Assent ; which (being infringed) I presume, more
nearly

Dedication. v

nearly concerns your Royal Dignity than any Address in Print, that ever crav'd Protection at your Majesty's Feet; therefore it would certainly be an unpardonable Crime in me to be the least ambiguous of it.

I think the best Historians in most Ages have particularly observ'd, that when a Kingdom flourishes with all the Opulence and Advantages that might sufficiently render it a lasting Satisfaction, the Subjects in general, but more especially those in Power, are frequently the more obnoxious to deviate from the Rules of

vi *Dedication.*

all Humanity, Justice, and common Honesty; which enormous Deviations seem, in all Appearance, at present, too fatally to have infected a great Part of the superior Order, and true Discipline, of those Forces now under the Crown of *England*. To prevent the Contagion from spreading, and indeed intirely to suppress its Malignity, it is heartily to be wish'd, both for the publick Welfare and Satisfaction, that they, who are guilty of such heinous Crimes, and unnatural Breaches of Trust, were either divested of their Authority, or otherways compell'd, by higher Powers,

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Powers, to a more strict Observance of their several Duties.

Would they only turn their Eyes on the glorious Conduct of their Sovereign, and take Example from that inexhaustible Source of Wisdom and Goodness, they could not then find the least Possibility for committing such gross Errors; but on the contrary, the amiable Idea would, doubtless, create an Abhorrence to such Proceedings as appear at present to be their greatest Pleasures: Surely, all Subjects from hence have the fairest Opportunity offer'd of regulating

viii *Dedication.*

lating their own, whether ecclesiastical, civil, or military Employments; and of making their Monarch's exemplary Virtues the just Criterion of their own Actions.

But notwithstanding the utmost Care and Industry a most judicious Prince can make use of, in adjusting every Thing that seems most conducive to the general Good and Welfare of his Kingdom; yet there may still remain some Flaws and Imperfections, which either escape his Knowledge, by Reason of the Negligence or Connivance of his Vicegerents, or are other-
ways

Dedication. ix

ways by them misrepresented, at the assiduous Importunity of a powerful guilty Party ; which, it is much to be fear'd, will prove incessantly injurious, both to your Majesty's Soldiers and Subjects, till such like Impediments are remov'd by a thorough Regulation of the Army ; for the want of which, all Actions of Bravery, Honesty, and regular Oeconomy, appear to be extinguish'd, or reduc'd almost to the smallest Atom ; whereby the truest Soldiers groan under the insupportable Burden of Tyranny and Oppression, who ought to be treated as loyal Subjects, and more
imme-

X *Dedication.*

immediate Servants to their
Sovereign.

Reasons of this Importance
have induc'd me to take the
present Opportunity of offer-
ing to your Majesty's Con-
sideration the Subject of this
following Treatise on the
British Army ; how well
your Royal Care will be em-
ploy'd for the Welfare of all
true Soldiers and Subjects, in
redressing all Grievances of
this Nature, I presume, will
not in the least be doubted
by those who have the smal-
lest Acquaintance with their
Monarch's constant and inde-
fatigable Concern for the pub-
lick

Dedication. xi

lick Quietude and Property ;
whose transcendent Conduct
hath hitherto obtain'd a peace-
able Enjoyment for his King-
dom (provided all civil Dis-
cord cease) when a great Part
of the Universe appears in
Arms: but as several *Euro-
pean* Princes and Allies con-
tinue involv'd in War, there-
fore your Majesty's Assistance
may probably become neces-
sary, and perhaps an inevita-
ble Engagement may happen
when least expected.

Those very Reasons (pro-
vided there were no other to
be alledg'd) are certainly a
sufficient Incitement for all
negligent

xii *Dedication.*

negligent Officers, to a more strict Observance of their Duty, *i. e.* to keep all the Forces under their Command in a true dexterous Discipline, and to be always in Readiness, compleatly arm'd for Defence, at their Prince's Call; but whatever may be the Consequence of foreign Affairs, there is certainly an unavoidable Necessity for supporting a Sufficiency of able Forces, both for the Defence and Preservation of your Majesty's most sacred Person, Crown and Dignity; also for the better Security of the Subjects Liberty and Property, I humbly presume, that no loyal
Person

Dedication. xiii

Person will ever propose to reduce the small Number of effective Men (in Comparifon to thofe of other Nations) that are kept for the aforefaid Purpofe; but rather endeavour to animate or enjoin them to a due Obedience and Subjection to their Sovereign's Orders, which is, without Difpute, the leading Principle and Monitor to all Actions of true Honour, Courage, Juftice, and Virtue; and the moft effectual Method of reftoring thofe valuable Endowments will, doubtlefs, be to obftruct thefe frequent Infringements, which are fo
noxious

xiv *Dedication.*

noxious and opposite to all true Rules of Christianity.

That happy Peace and full Security of all our Rights, which are now enjoy'd under your Majesty's most auspicious Reign, seem as Blessings granted from HEAVEN, to reward that just Administration of Regal Power, so graciously dispens'd to this Kingdom ; which, if it should ever unfortunately happen to be embroil'd in War, either by a foreign Enemy, or the more unnatural Animosities of domestick Dissentions, the only Refuge then left for your Royal Safety, and Country's Pro-

Dedication. XV

Protection, will certainly be a sufficient Number of true and faithful Soldiers, well-us'd, arm'd, disciplin'd, and commanded by judicious Officers, of true Courage, and unfeign'd Probity, who are capable of setting Patterns to their Soldiers, of more noble Precedents, than what are usually practis'd at present ; but provided that this following Performance should fortunately be honour'd with your Royal Approbation, it may safely be presum'd, that there will not then be the least Doubt of a thorough Regulation, and full Redress of every Grievance wherefore
ever

xvi *Dedication.*

ever 'tis necessary for the
publick Good ; which happy
Effects will more than suffi-
ciently repay the well-meant
Endeavours of your Majesty's

most Dutiful,

most Obedient,

most devoted Subject

and zealous Servant,



J. RAILTON.



THE
AUTHOR'S
PREFACE.

IN so great and hazardous
an Undertaking as this
may appear to the Pub-
lick, they may probably
promise themselves the Satisfaction
of perusing the Works of a Man
endow'd with both true Courage,
and all the Qualifications of an in-
genious Author. As to the first En-
dowment, I am free to be try'd or
b censur'd

xviii *The Preface.*

cenfur'd, according to the Discretion of my Readers; but think it very requisite to assure them (in relation to the second) that this following Treatise contains very little that is worth their Notice, except a Multiplicity of Bold Truths, which perhaps may be the least agreeable Subject to treat of in this polite Age: but I hope that Sincerity will once meet with a suitable Reception, by falling into such Hands as have an equal Aversion to Flattery and Deception; therefore such, as don't approve of these plain Maxims, are desir'd to proceed no further, for I had much rather have my Works lie dormant, than to give any impartial Person the Spleen.

In the next Place, I am to acquaint the Criticks that I only took up these Arms, *viz.* Pen, Ink and Paper, in my own Defence, and never made use of them in this publick Manner, till I was depriv'd
of

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of my Horse, Sword and Fire Arms, which I profess myself abundantly more conversant in; and provided they make Interest, so that proper Arms are restor'd to me again, I shall more freely resign up these: but in the mean Time (as I take it) the Criticks are bound, by the Honour of their Profession, to attack my Adversaries first, who drove me to the Necessity of Writing; and provided that they prove Conquerors, they will then be at Liberty to assay me afterwards.

I shall now proceed to shew the Necessity of publishing my own Service in the Army, which in some Measure appears as a private Affair, and appertains to me alone; but I humbly presume, that all judicious and impartial People will allow, that I have not only adventurously expos'd myself to the censorious, but also hazarded the utmost Efforts of

xx *The Preface.*

a powerful Adversary, by expounding their mercenary and illegal Practices, in Hopes to prevent them, for the future Honour of all true zealous Professors of the Sword, and propose the most effectual Method of redressing those Injuries so justly complain'd of; and what concerns the Welfare of the Army, which is or ought to be the Defender of the true Protestant Church, doubtless, concerns the Publick in the most important Article of our Liberties.

The Heads of this following Treatise were wrote during my Imprisonment, except such as have occurred since, with a Design to lie before my Judges; yet by some powerful Adversaries barbarous Aspersions and Subterfuge, a Trial hath hitherto been prevented, but being resolv'd to persevere in Pursuit of Justice, I have taken Recourse to these Measures, as the only Refuge left to effect it; and if it chance to fail,

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fail, rather than they shall continue to triumph in such extreme Usurpations, I intend to be at the further Trouble of making a Key to these Works, in order, if possible, to unlock their Consciences, which perhaps may fly in their Faces at last.

This general Publication may probably be, by many, turn'd to my own Detraction, which I am so little solicitous about, that I rather think it an Honour: and so long as I am not conscious of Guilt, I can't be diffident of Danger; therefore provided my well-meant Endeavours have the happy Effects of being any ways serviceable to my King and Country, and instrumental to the Relief of the oppress'd Soldiery, I shall glory in the Action, and think it the greatest Honour that can accrue to any Subject; in case he even sacrifices his own Life in such a just Attempt as the relieving so many Thousands of poor Sufferers, from
the

xxii *The Preface.*

the Tyranny and Oppression of some inhuman Officers.

Beside, there are also divers Enormities which I take to be very detrimental to the Government's Constitution, and peculiarly contagious to the *British* Army, I mean the penurious Traders and Farmers that encroach upon the Subject's Liberty and Property, which brings a perpetual Scandal upon the whole Profession of the Sword, who inure themselves to oppress, and barbarously asperse those Soldiers which they preside over, keeping them continually in Awe, the better to conceal such Illegalities as they, doubtless, have great Reason to be ashamed of. These Usurpers (which are all utter Enemies to true military Discipline) being so prodigious numerous, that, provided their Courage and Conduct were equivalent, I should then look upon it as a very dangerous Enterprize for all the true disciplin'd

The Preface. XXiii

disciplin'd Soldiers to oppose them ; therefore I, who have attempted it alone, may reasonably expect to be reckon'd a Madman, according to the Report of some certain Officers.

In the first Place, I shall acquaint my Readers what introduc'd me to this Undertaking, *viz.* my several Services in the Army ; likewise some Inferences concerning my Petitions to the Royal Family, which appear'd to be the Occasion of several Examinations before his Majesty's Secretary at War ; also my being falsly imprison'd by Officers, in order to prevent my discovering their unlawful Proceedings : likewise several Articles of War, and Clauses of Military Acts of Parliament inserted ; shewing wherein they are intolerably infring'd, and the Necessity for their being re-establish'd, not only for the sake of poor suffering Soldiers, but also several others
of

XXIV *The Preface.*

of his Majesty's Loyal Subjects, who are often great Sufferers by the Army, through the Obscurity of the Military Law, or rather, for want of a Military Law, for it would, doubtless, be full as well if there were none, as to be so highly transgressed, as it hath been for some Years past; and scarce any Laws observ'd, except those of the Officers making. What is inserted I humbly recommend to the serious Consideration of my Readers, and remain a Well-wisher to the *British* Government, and all his Majesty's Soldiers and Subjects, of an upright Probity, and unfeigned Courage.



T H E



T H E

ARMY's Regulator.



THE first time I had the Honour to serve his Majesty, was in the Second Troop of Horse Grenadier Guards, and after eleven Months Service, I had a Discharge at my own Request ; not for any Dislike I had to that Corps, but for other Prospects I had in view, which did not answer according to Expectation. The Disappointment occasioned my entertaining with an Officer of Dragoons, who gave me Half a Crown to drink to his Majesty's Health, and promis'd, that I should enter into Pay that very Day, which was the 13th of *March*, 1734-5. He also promis'd to give me every thing clear that was necessary for myself and Horse, without any Stoppage whatever : Likewise, to
B give

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give me Money to defray my Charges down to his Troop, desiring no Returns; for which, before I left *London*, he gave me a Guinea. So far he performed, but loaded me with a great many other Promises he never did, nor (as I suppose) never intended to perform.

The very Day I became a Dragoon, I received several Messages from the Officers of Horse Grenadiers (under whom I had lately served) to entertain with them the second time, which shews that my former Service was approved of; and I approved of them so well, that I had a great Inclination to accept of their Offer: But, as I had promised an Officer of Dragoons, I would not falsify my Word, it being the distinguishing Characteristick of a Soldier of Honour to be true to his Trust, and faithful to all his Engagements.

But to return to my Purpose: Being entered a Dragoon the 13th of *March* as aforesaid, I was accounted with only from the 25th, by which Means I was abridged of twelve Days Pay after I had taken the Oaths of Fidelity to his Majesty, which they never could render any just Reason for; likewise, one Shilling and ten Pence for Saddle Strops, and four Shillings and six Pence charged for a Pair of Linen Stockings, which I never received, and mending and cleaning an old rusty weather-beaten Hat, which
was

B 2

which

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which many of them are almost if not intire Strangers) they frequently shelter their illegal Proceedings in depriving the Horfes of the greateft part of their Corn, the Men of their Money, and their King and Country (by their false Musters) of the proper Number of Forces the Army ought to confift of.

When the Men heard of my Contract with the inlifting Officer, they said, I was not the first by a great many that had been bilk'd after the like manner from one Guinea to five or fix Pounds or upwards, which they scarce ever received any Satisfaction for upon Application to their Officers, but were often threatened and imprisoned; and, in short, they concluded I might throw my Cap after it as the rest had done. But as I did not ask their Advice, I resolv'd not to follow it, although I have found since by Experience, that the poor Dragoons were very much in the right.

A Dragoon's Pay, by Act of Parliament, besides his Clothing, amounts to seventeen Pence *per* Day, of which, six Pence is stopped for his Board, and six Pence for his Horfe's Hay, the Officers accounting with each Man for two Pence *per* Day once in three or four Months if they think convenient; and of the three Pence remaining, one Half-penny is stopped for the Farrier of the Troop, and two Pence Half-penny
per

per Day for each Horse's Corn ; which, notwithstanding the Troop Horses were kept in the Winter-time upwards of four Months without Oats, upon a small Quantity of Bran and Beans only, which, by a moderate Computation, did scarce amount to one Penny *per* Day each Horse. So it plainly appears according to my Petitions addressed to her Majesty, the Prince of *Wales*, and Duke of *Cumberland*, in his Majesty's absence, that the Officers hoarded or embezzled the publick Money, after the Rate of three hundred Pounds or upwards out five hundred in that very Article. And doubtless it is every Man's Duty to see his Horse have due Feeding as well as Dressing, otherwise he will make but a poor Campaign ; and any private Soldier found guilty of embezzling but one Day's Corn must expect to undergo the severest Punishment : therefore, I do not see any Reason why Officers put in Trust and Power should not suffer accordingly ; neither do I know of any Crime my Horse had committed, deserving of being put under four or five Months Stoppages.

But, I suppose (Miser like) they concluded, that the Horses having no long Marches to go, nor Plow and Cart to work in at that time, might make a Shift without Corn ; which is a little like the Horse that happened to die soon after his Master had

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been at a great deal of Pains in teaching him to live without Provender.

I was threatened by an Officer, of so mean a Rank as a Serjeant (whom the Officers intrusted with the full Charge of a Troop the greatest part of the Year, knowing him a fit Tool for their Purpose) to be sent to the Black Hole for scrupling to finge the long Hairs of my Horse's Belly, Thighs, and Legs, the Serjeant having given strict Orders for other Men so to do. Were it not for their Size and Colour, they were more like Goats than Troop Horses, the Hairs being grown to a very uncommon Length for want of a due Feed of Corn, and star'd like Hogs Bristles, which is a certain Sign of Want and Poverty in Horses.

A commanding Officer, who is desirous of maintaining a true Discipline, and keeping his Horses in due Order, to be in Readiness upon any lawful Command or Expedition which may happen, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the Army, ought to inspect into his Regiment at least once or twice every Year besides the Reviews; and the more privately he goes the better he will be able to keep proper Officers upon Duty, who now take unsufferable Liberties, strolling the Country over, as if they were all Generals themselves, leaving their Commands with Serjeants, who seldom
fail

fail of shewing their Power and Authority to the highest Degree, and undoubtedly, in hopes of keeping in their Officers Favours, will omit nothing concerning their private Interests, not forgetting their own at the same time. I have observed them to allow the Horses a due Feed of Corn about three Weeks or a Month before a Review, but no other time, as if that was sufficient to serve all the Year after; such pretty Artifices they make use of, the better to conceal those Proceedings they really have the Modesty to be ashamed of. Notwithstanding I never had the Experience of an Engagement against a foreign Enemy, yet common Sense sufficiently informs us, without any Experience, that a dull half-starved Horse is only a Hindrance to a Man's Performance in time of Action; and in the Depth of Winter the Horses were so weak and faint, that I think the same Number of well disciplined Foot Soldiers were able to drive them off the Field, or at least force them to quit their Horses; and there are several Reasons to be given, wherein Foot Soldiers have the Advantage of Horsemen, when dismounted.

The last time I was brought out of the Dungeon and examined in Irons by the Officers, who demanded to know in particular, if I saw those false Musters I had informed the General of? To which I answered :

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swered : That I did not, but had sufficient Proof of all, and more than I had named ; which they would not admit me to send for. But an Officer, who knew himself to be guilty of one or more of the false Musters, ask'd his own Serjeant and Favourite, if the Man was not fairly listed ? Which, in my Opinion, differed but little from a Man asking his Brother if he was a Thief ?

A Field Officer's Honour must certainly be at a low Ebb, to condescend to be try'd, or suffer his Actions to be censured by a Regimental Court-martial ; and, what to me was the most surprising, he was so ignorant or base, after he had made his Defence, as to say : That he hoped the Gentlemen would do both him and me Justice, when at the same time I knew that they never intended it ; neither was it in their Power to do us Justice, except in recommending us to a General Court-martial, or a Board of General Officers, by whom, all Affairs of that Nature, according to his Majesty's Orders and Acts of Parliament for that Purpose, are to be determined. But for three Cornets, whose Commissions are the lowest in those Corps, some of them lately advanced to that Preferment, one Lieutenant, and a Captain President, to pretend to try their own Field Officers for making false Musters, was certainly opposing his Majesty's most gracious Will and Pleasure to the highest Degree,

Degree, and, in a just Sense, may be said to equal the most unpardonable and unjustifiable Presumption, being directly contrary and opposite to all legal Authority.

But, as to my being an Eye-witness to the false Musters, it was impossible; for I only saw two Reviews by the General commanding the Regiment; but never heard any Man's Name mentioned, or called, by any Commissary or Muster-master, during my fourteen Months Service in that Regiment; so am not a personal Witness, that there was ever a true Muster made, or taken in it. But as sure as I am, that there was ever a Muster made in the Regiment, so sure I am, that there were some false: For that very Man, which the Field Officer's Serjeant pretended was listed, told me, in presence of two or three other Men, who are ready to make Oath of the same, that he never was a Soldier, but hired for a certain Sum of Money, to pass the Review; and, at the same time, he mentioned several other Men hired upon the same Footing, and all dismissed, as soon as the Review was over; he likewise wished, that any General might review the Regiment, except the General that commanded it, that he might have another Piece of Money from the Officers. I asked the Reason, why he could not have the same Opportunity, if the General commanding the Regiment reviewed

viewed it, as well as any other. To which he answered, that it was a general Maxim amongst all Officers in one Regiment, to be acquainted with each other's Proceedings, and, undoubtedly, would excuse some Faults in each other, in hopes of the same, or other Favours. These Words I had great Reasons to believe, by my own Experience, to be very true; but was surprized to hear such an Answer from the Countryman. But, to pass my own Sentiments upon it. I don't look upon any General inspecting into the Regiment that he commands, as a proper Review, it being an Office of such material Consequence, as crowned Heads generally condescend to take upon themselves, or by the Deputation of some known faithful experienced and renowned General, to review the whole Forces. Not that I presume, in the least, to hint at any particular Gentleman of so high a Rank as a general Officer, but must confess, that my Opinion, in that Case, agrees, in some measure, with the Countryman's; *i. e.* if there is any Favour to be shewn from Gentlemen of such high Trust and Power, it may reasonably be supposed, that they will vouchsafe the Officers under their Commands their full Share of it: And, as false Musters have been of so long Standing, the Officers now seem to claim them as a Custom, in defiance of His Majesty's Articles

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ticles of War, and Acts of Parliament. I must beg Leave to observe, that the Design of a standing Army is, that they should be always in a complete State and ready Posture of Defence; and consequently, must be the greatest Misfortune imaginable to a Prince, when his Tribunes, or Officers, ingross the proper Fund, for supporting a sufficient Army, to a few private Pockets, and blind the Publick's Eye with Hirelings Names, who appear as Soldiers for one Day, and Peasants all the rest of their Lives.

But, as I have observed before, that I never was personally mustered during fourteen Months Service, yet I must do this Justice to the Commissary, or Muster-master, who came once (as I suppose) to that Intent, when there was no military Officer, but the youngest Corporal, one Drum, and four or five Dragoons, besides myself, in the whole Town where we were quartered; which plainly shews the want of good Order and Discipline. Such careless and neglectful Shepherds may reasonably expect their Flocks to be either intirely, or most confusedly dispersed; but, as it was to little Purpose to muster five Dragoons instead of fifty, the Muster-master returned, without doing his Duty, leaving us (as I suppose) to multiply till some other Year: But the first Time that he came in Company
with

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with the Officers, I heard that he mustered us at a Tavern, or Brothel, upon their Honours. How far that will extend, I leave the World to judge, by their other Proceedings. Had the Commissary done Justice, according to the Strictness of his Oath, he had mustered these five Men upon the Spot, if no more had appeared; which, questionless, would have made the Officers observe their Duty better ever after; and, on the contrary, his taking the Muster Rolls upon their Honours is certainly the readiest way to make them more negligent, till such times as it becomes a common Practice.

When the Regiment was in *Scotland*, I heard that the Officers turned Farmers, and wrought the King's Horses in the Plow and Cart; when a Nobleman, or Gentleman of Honour riding that Way, asked, Whose Horses these were? Answer was made by some Peasant, who knew no better, that they belonged to such an Officer; and, upon further Enquiry, the Gentleman found all, or most of the Troops in the Regiment employed, more or less, both Men and Horses, at Husbandry Work. Therefore, he either came or wrote to *London*, and procured a Rout, with strict Orders for the Regiment to march into *England*, at a very short Warning, to the great Disappointment of all the Military Farmers, who (with Regret, as I am informed) were obliged to leave their
native

native Employments, and represent Gentlemen in the Army. I believe all true Lovers of their King and Country will agree with me in this, that it would be an intire Credit to the Army, and Happiness to *Great Britain*, if but half the Officers in the Army were endowed with so much Honour and Loyalty as that Gentleman who routed those Farmers out of *Scotland*.

A Man is certainly deserving of Esteem, who raises himself, even from the lowest Station of Life, to such an honourable Post as either Colonel or Captain of a Troop or Company by his Merit; but when arrived to that height of Preferment, I don't see any Merit in wronging and oppressing the poor unfortunate Men under their Command; and if an Officer chances to be puffed up to such a Degree, by Advancement, as to forget his former State, and be above taking Notice or doing Justice to a private Man, I think it very unlikely for him to remember the Contract against his own Interest which he made twelve or fourteen Months before; and think it a very great Hardship for any private Man to be deprived of his Right, when an Officer (who was once thro' Necessity upon the same Footing) is not pleased to remember it. Thus I at present leave the Dragoons, and turn Foot Soldier, the History of which Adventure is as follows:

Being

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Being resolved to seek for Justice, not only for myself, but also to do my Duty to my King and Country, according to my Conscience, and the Oath I had taken, which I fully determined never to sacrifice to my Ease or Interest, I therefore repaired to *London*, in hopes of finding Justice at my first Arrival, but have spent above a Twelve-month all in vain, upon diligent Search and Enquiry for that End; but the chief Reason of my fruitless Search was, that my Gracious Sovereign, from whom I assured myself of Justice, was near upon setting out for his *German* Dominions; which Time I imagined improper to intercede in relation to Affairs of this Nature; but was resolv'd to part with my Life, rather than alter my Principles, or relinquish a Cause which probably may one Day turn to the Advantage of my King and Country, and the Relief of the poor suffering Soldiers. Therefore, for Support, and in hopes of a more favourable Opportunity, I entertained in the Foot Guards, and concealed my Service in the Dragoons to the Officers of Foot, who made but little Enquiry, as they listed me according to their own Terms; but I presently found, that some Officers in the Guards were hardly more faithful to their Trust than those I left. The first Instance was, I entered in one Company the twenty-second Day of *May*, 1736, and the fifth of *June* (by Order)

Order) I was sworn in another Company and in a different Battalion, from whose inlisting Officer I received Orders to be with him betimes on the Muster-day in the Morning, and he would take care to provide Cloaths, Arms, and Accoutrements, which was accordingly done: But as soon as Muster was over, he called me to sign the Rolls, and gave me two Shillings, with Orders to return to the first Company again, and took my Cloaths, Arms, &c. from me.

It is remarkable, that some Officers look upon Men, when listed into their Troops or Companies as so many *Turkish* Slaves, and consequently at their Disposals to sell, chop, or change when they see their best Markets, as Farmers do their Horses; and it more fully appears by the Officers trying Deserters frequently at Regimental Court-martials, contrary to military Laws, and afterwards giving them their Choice, whether they will undergo severe Punishment, and suffer the Disgrace of being drumm'd out of the Regiment like Thieves, with Halters about their Necks, or consent to be transported to some Regiment Abroad. So I appeal to the World what sort of Officers these are, who presume to impose upon their Benefactors by completing the Regiments in his Majesty's Garrisons with Deserters, and other Criminals sentenced by their own Fraternity to such Disgrace. For most certain, none, really
deserving

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deserving such Sentence to be passed upon them, ought to be permitted to serve under the Crown of *England*. *Alexander the Great*, who conquered the *Persian* Nation, had but a small Army to perform such noble Actions, but it may reasonably be supposed, that they did not consist of such Runagates and Vagrants as above mention'd; but on the contrary, of brave, honest, and loyal Men, who were us'd accordingly by their Commanders, which encourag'd them to such great and heroick Actions; for good Commanders, a true Discipline, the Soldiers Loyalty (which depends in a great Measure upon the Usage they receive) and to be engaged in a just Cause, these four honest Principles, I say, attending an Army (altho' much inferior in Number) are best able to procure its Success in time of Action.

The *Roman* Tribunes flourished a-main while they were instructed by *Cato's* Lectures; but when the Army consisted of Plunderers, Murderers, and Men every Way extremely vicious, the Scene was altered, and the Commonwealth reduced their Generals, fought against each other, and, in short, the *Romans*, once the Glory of the World, became the publick Scorn, and were even branded to a common Proverb of Ignominy and Baseness. Why should our Commanders in Trust and Power venture the Crown of *England*, or even his Majesty's Garrisons
abroad

abroad (which ought to be his Bulwark and Defence against his Enemies and Opposers) to such worthless Persons, so long as there are such prodigious Numbers of his Majesty's loyal and faithful Subjects half perished for want of Employment? I have heard a great many brave Men say, that they would freely venture their Lives in their King and Country's Service, provided they were sure of Usage according to their Deserts, but had rather suffer Death than stand to be beat like Dogs; which, indeed, is generally the Case if a Man does but speak or look contrary to some Officers Humours. I have known Men beat with Canes and Horse-whips till the Blood run from their Heads into their Shoes, only for speaking in their own Defence, and very often laid in Irons in some Dungeon afterwards; and if they presume to ask for their Arrears, or any thing that they have been wrong'd of, a Dungeon is certainly their Fate. These frequent Liberties taken by certain Officers, in extending their Authorities to such unsufferable Severities, is the Reason of the best Men's avoiding the Army, and good Recruits being so difficult to get.

I think there are five Pounds allowed to Officers for each Recruit listed into the Foot or Dragoon Service, at an Augmentation of the Army; but instead of encouraging a
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good Man with an honest and fair Character, the Officers generally take care to keep four Pounds, or upwards, in their own Pockets, and imploy a Parcel of Kidnappers to inveigle poor Boys and drunken Vagrants to list; who for so small a Trifle as five or ten Shillings, when in Liquor, are frequently enticed before some trading Justice, who, for the Lucre of one Shilling, will swear them into any Regiment at home or abroad, as the Kidnappers desire, and altho' the poor Wretches so sworn are very often so drunk that they know little or nothing of the matter.

When I return'd to the first inlisting Company of Guards, they, hearing of my Proceedings, represented me as a dangerous and unfit Person to serve in the Army (as I was inform'd) and I have great Reason to believe, they only kept me in hopes of an Advantage, at the Dragoon Officer's Request.

As I had the Honour of exercising, when a Horse Grenadier, in Review before his Majesty, which is allow'd to be as complete a Corps for Discipline as any under the Crown of *England*; so the Officers of Foot concluded (before they knew that I had serv'd in the Dragoons) that I had no occasion to be fatigued with a Drilling Master; so I was excus'd, and mounted Guard, till such times as they heard that I had serv'd fourteen Months in the Dragoons, after I left the

Horse

Horse Grenadiers, and had petition'd against the Dragoon Officers; and then I was immediately order'd to the Drilling Masters, amongst new Recruits; but as I had been so long discharged from the Horse Grenadiers, I leave it to the Judgment of the Publick, and their own Conscience (if they have any) what more Occasion I could have for Instructions, than if I had been all the fourteen Months out of his Majesty's Service; as they knew nothing to the contrary, when I was order'd to mount the Queen's Guards.

Being a Month fatigued with constant Exercising in *Hyde-Park* (except when I mounted Guard) I was always order'd on the Right or Left of the Squadron, for a Guide to the Recruits, when at the End of the Month, according to Custom, the Major came to see us exercise and fire, and by his pleasant Countenance seem'd to approve of our Performance; the Drilling Master likewise told me, that he had promis'd to dismiss the Squadron in two or three Days at the farthest.

But the next Morning being commanded to re-inforce the *Tower Garrison*, occasioned by the *Spittlefields* Rioters, in which Garrison I was constantly employ'd at Exercise, when off Duty, being maliciously order'd into two fresh Squadrons, and threatened with the Black Hole, and the utmost Severities, upon the least Refusal: therefore, as

I perceiv'd they waited for an Advantage, I resolv'd to be upon my guard, and never disobey any Orders, how unreasonable soever, which I believ'd to be hurtful to none but myself; yet sometimes I could not help making Application, in hopes of Redress, but still met with Repulses, and found no Remedy but Patience; nor could I have an Opportunity of being regularly dismissed by the Major, till I had first serv'd upwards of four Months, and mounted thirteen Queen's Guards, and *Tower* Guards; altho' I have often heard, that it is the General's Express Orders, that no Recruit shall be oblig'd or suffer'd to mount any Guard till dismissed from the Drilling Masters; so leave them to answer the disobeying of their General's Orders in such a material Point, as leaving their Majesties, and the Crown of *England*, to be guarded by green and undisciplin'd Men; for notwithstanding they were not capable of teaching me any thing relating to true Discipline, I being as well vers'd therein the first Week I enter'd in the Foot Cuards as the last, yet to my certain Knowledge, they oblig'd a great Number of young Recruits to mount the Queen's Guards, who were almost Strangers to every particular Branch of it.

To oblige an Officer I mounted an extraordinary Guard, upon his Promise that I should be excus'd a Guard whenever I pleas'd,
but

but upon my requesting the same, a superior Officer, being acquainted with it, threatened to break my Head (as he had serv'd several under his Command) and send me to the Black Hole : So to escape the Danger I was oblig'd to Silence, and put up with the Injury.

The same Officer ask'd me, before his Majesty's Secretary at War, if I had any thing to alledge against the Foot Guards, when in the Middle of my Examination relating to Dragoons, which at that Time I thought an improper Question, so made him no Answer, but proceeded to the Business then in hand ; he interrupted me the second Time, demanding to know if I had any Complaints to alledge, of any particular Wrongs received in their Company ; and desir'd his Majesty's Secretary at War to ask me the Question ; to which I answer'd, that I had not charg'd them with any, or to that Purpose. The Reason of my Evasions at that Time was, that I perceiv'd the Officer took that Advantage in order to justify himself and others, and to clear themselves of Things which I took another Opportunity to discover ; yet had I not been privy to publick Wrongs, which I am sworn not to conceal, I think I had never repeated my own private Injuries ; besides, at that Time I had so many powerful Adversaries (I mean Dragoon Officers) that to add to them would

have been an Oversight which, I think, the weakest Capacity would scarce have committed.

Whenever I had Orders to attend at the War-Office, to answer to my Petitions against the Dragoon Officers, as aforesaid, I observ'd some Officers of Foot Guards always to be present, who took all Opportunities of cross questioning, and catching at all Advantages, altho' I never had given them any just Cause; but according to the old Proverb, *A guilty Conscience is generally its own Accuser*. Nor can I apprehend why the Serjeants and Corporals gave their constant Attendance every Time, except by Orders to take me Prisoner if I alledg'd any thing against their Corps or Regiment; therefore I believe I answered the Officers Expectations, in making such Discoveries as aforesaid.

One time I met an Officer of Foot, who ask'd me, if any Officers belonging to that Regiment of Dragoons, wherein I had serv'd, were in Town, and if I knew where they liv'd or lodg'd, and what Coffee-houses they frequented: and some time after he told me the Particulars mention'd in their Letters, which till then I thought had been a Secret to all, but the Dragoon Officers and myself, which I think is a very great Instance of their making him their Confident, and Instrument to trapan me; likewise his taking their Parts upon all Occasions; and in short, his Actions

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from first to last convinc'd me (whatever his present Pretences were) that his real Intentions were to favour and assist the greatest Powers, without consulting Justice about the Matter.

The last Time I was at the War-Office before Imprisonment, when I said before his Majesty's Secretary at War, that I could not live upon Eighteen Pence a Week (which was all that I had received the seven preceding Days) an Officer follow'd me to the War-Office Door, and charg'd me as his Prisoner, giving strict Orders to a Serjeant, who undoubtedly was posted there for that Purpose, not to let me go; he then return'd into the Office (as I suppose) in order to obtain Consent of his Majesty's Secretary at War, that I should remain Prisoner, but being disappointed at that Time, he return'd in a violent Passion, and gave Orders that I might go home.

Notwithstanding these Orders I look'd upon myself as his Prisoner, from that very Time, being well assur'd that a weak Fort closely besieged (however justly maintain'd for a Time) must perish, or surrender to the Enemy at last; and (as I suspected) the second Day afterwards I was taken Prisoner, by two Commission Officers, who conducted me to the *Savoy*, and gave strict Orders to the Captain Provost not to let me escape, giving no other Reasons for it in my hearing,

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but by the Secretary at War's Orders, which Orders (if it was so) I have great Reasons to believe were granted at the Officer's earnest Desire, and frequent Applications to him; and in all Probability great Interest and Solicitations might be made from the Officers of both Corps, or Regiments, as they knew themselves both deeply, if not equally concern'd; and the Charge would certainly be prov'd against them at a fair Trial, which they have prevented by keeping me sixteen Weeks Prisoner in the *Savoy*; and afterwards, without ever bringing me to any Trial, or Form of Trial, they maliciously drumm'd me out of the Regiment, thro' the Horse Guards, with a Halter about my Neck. Such a Precedent of Injustice and arbitrary Power, as I think till then never was known or heard of amongst the *British* Soldiers, nor acted in his Majesty's Dominions; altho' the greatest Part of the Soldiers then present were very sensible, that the enormous Officer and his Accomplices (like other Criminals turn'd Informers) only put a Halter about my Neck to save their own.

But whoever observes any notorious Criminals to escape Death, or Transportation, for a Time, by unjustly bringing others to it, who perhaps may innocently fall a Sacrifice by their Device and Treachery; those, I say, who lay the Snare, seldom or never leave their vicious Inclinations, till they fall into
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the same or worse Snares themselves. I have now an Opportunity of giving my Readers a true Instance of it, for that opprobrious Officer, who commanded the Field that Day I was discharg'd, calls out aloud, Where's his Halter? Why don't you bring his Halter? At last a Cord being brought, and by his Deputy J. C--- (who probably did not understand his Trade so well as his Master) was thrown over my Shoulder not unlike an Officer's Sash, which, to imitate them the more, I put the End in my Pocket; but his Master, that paraded the Guard, who gave him Orders to make a Noose in the Cord, as if I were going to be hang'd; within two Months after, I heard, he very narrowly escap'd being hang'd in reality himself, which it is supposed had been unavoidable, but only for the Power of Riches, that obtain'd him an Opportunity, which without doubt he most readily laid hold on, so voluntarily transported himself to prevent Death, or a real Transportation.

My chief Design is not to ridicule a Person, who, it is to be fear'd, hath already render'd himself too perspicuously despicable and obnoxious to the World; but on the contrary, think him not worth my least Concern any further than to represent him as an Example to other *Barbarians*, and (if possible) to reform, and bring them to a true Notion of Justice and Humanity.

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As I have suffer'd such long false Imprisonments, and the real Occasion not known, I therefore stand disgrac'd in the Eye of the World. Likewise being depriv'd of Bread in his Majesty's Service, without the Benefit of a Trial (which is granted even to the most notorious Robbers and Murderers) I therefore hope none will blame me for these Proceedings, in order to justify myself; especially when they consider that all my Sufferings have been occasioned by my Fidelity and Zeal for my King and Country, in discharging my Duty and Trust, according to the Oath I had taken.

Of all Things I am the most surprized, that a Gentleman of so high a Trust and Power, as his Majesty's Secretary at War, should permit the Officers to take such insufferable Liberties in his very Presence, to act directly against his Commands; or rather, to be bias'd or forced contrary to his own Reason and Inclination; for notwithstanding I was taken Prisoner and confined in the *Savoy* by his Orders, on *Saturday* the 11th of *December* 1736. I had told him the whole Case the *Thursday* before (when I gave him a List of Witnesses Names) at which Time I received his particular Orders to attend him at the Office on *Tuesday* the 14th that Instant, and to give him a full Account in writing, what every Witness had to say, which Demand I thought was so unreasonable,

unreasonable, that I never intended to undertake it, and had a great Mind to tell him so; but upon second Consideration, to prevent an Offence, I endeavour'd an Excuse, by saying the Time was too short to perform so great a Work; upon which an Answer was made by an Agent of the Guards, that it was only writing that such a Man said so and so, and such a Man, &c. I told him that I understood his Meaning, but thought it a very difficult Task.

I leave it to the Judgment of all considerate People, whether it would not be giving the Officers an Advantage of tampering with the Witnesses, especially those under their Commands, as it is much to be fear'd there be some poor Wretches, thro' Fear of ill Usage, and the Hopes of promis'd Favours, would contradict every thing they had said before. Had the Request of such an Account from under my Hand not been proposed by a Person of so high a Rank, it might be reasonable to suspect such a Design; if so, only two or three Witnesses, prevailed upon to contradict what I had wrote, would intirely have expos'd me to the merciless Designs of my Adversaries, and what would then have been my Fate, I leave the World to judge; but if to ensnare me were the real Intentions of such an irregular Demand, as to order me to dictate other Men's Knowledge (which is an intire Impossibility)

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I say if that were the real Design, there was, in my Opinion, a greater, or much more material Consequence attending it, *i. e.* as I take it, a Plot against the whole Government, whose just Cause I represented, and endeavour'd to maintain.

I must beg leave to observe, that it is requir'd of a Secretary at War, by his Majesty's most gracious Orders, to enquire thoroughly into the Complaints made to him, and lay them before his Majesty, in order to receive his further Directions thereupon ; so that his easy yielding to the Importunity of Officers is not only prejudicial to the Healths of poor suffering Prisoners, but even concealing the unlawful Practices of Officers to the great Prejudice of his Majesty's Army and Subjects in general.

The following are the Heads of a Petition sent by me from the *Savoy*, inclos'd in a Letter to his Majesty's Secretary at War the first of *February* 1736-7. yet notwithstanding I continued till the first of *April* 1737. having then suffer'd sixteen Weeks Imprisonment, and at last was drumm'd out of the Regiment without a Trial, as aforesaid ; so whither my Case was unfeignedly stated to Regal Authority, without Favour or Affection to any particular Person concern'd, I leave the World to judge by the following and other Petitions and Letters which he had received from

from me ; for my depending upon him to represent my Case to his Majesty, according to his Promise, and knowing it to be his Orders so to do, was the chief Reason of my lying so long in Prison without taking other Methods.

To the KING's Most Excellent
M A J E S T Y.

*YOUR Majesty's most humble Petitioner,
J. Railton, most humbly imploring my
ever gracious Liege for Liberty and Justice.
I have had the Happiness of presenting a
Petition to your Majesty's most gracious
Queen against Dragoon Officers, from whom
I had received very unjust Usage, being
entertained in your Majesty's first Regiment
of Foot Guards to support myself, and wait
for Justice ; but the Officers (as I believe to
starve me into Compliance) brought me to
the Savoy, the 11th of December, amongst
Criminals and Deserters, where I have
continued ever since, at the small Allowance
of Four-Pence a Day ; being almost dead
with the Thoughts of such inhuman Usage
(to a Person whose utmost Endeavours are
intended for his Prince's Service) till the
glorious Report of the Cannon gave the
happy Signal of your Majesty's Landing,
which inspired me with new Life. As I
have*

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have suffer'd such Barbarities for my Fidelity and Zeal to serve my King and Country, I most humbly hope to be try'd by my Peers, or Parliament, or by one of your Majesty's Courts of Records; and (provided I can have all my Witnesses present) if I don't then prove all my Allegations, and make other Discoveries serviceable to the major Part of your Majesty's Army, and Subjects in general, I desire no Favour, but to suffer Death with the utmost Severity and Rigour of the Law. Several of your Majesty's gracious Rules and Orders (which ought to be held most sacred) are very little regarded, or not put in practice: and in either Case it were much better for the poor suffering Soldiers, who depend upon them, never to have known such Articles; for it is very remarkable, that the Fate of the oppressed Soldiers, who make any Attempts of bringing any Articles or Acts, against Officers in force, is generally attended with Whips and Prisons, Chains and Dungeons, where they almost perish by Inches, which is consequently more severe than any Sentence inflicted by the Laws of this Land; but I trust in God Almighty (knowing my Cause to be just) that I shall have my gracious Sovereign on my Side; the Hopes of which set me above the Fear of all Adversaries whoever; most humbly beseeching my ever gracious Liege to credit,

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or bring me to Trial: for he, that presumes to write thus to a Prince and Sovereign, dares also avouch, and can prove it before any Court of Justice. Were I the richest Subject in your Majesty's Realm, it were little to venture in such a glorious Cause; but as I have nothing to offer, but the small insignificant Trifle of one Life, I most humbly implore your Majesty's most gracious Pardon for this high Presumption; and if it is your Majesty's gracious Will and Pleasure to forgive the Officers, and not expose them to the Rigour of the Law, I most humbly submit, and as in Duty bound, I shall ever pray for long Life and Prosperity to your Majesty, and all the Royal Family.

So help me God.

I think that no Prince upon Earth (after receiving such a Petition as above) would permit a Soldier or Subject to suffer as I did, or such a Complaint to be made without ordering a proper Trial, and a strict Examination into the Affair; and sure none dares presume to suppose that his *Britannick* Majesty, whose universal Goodness and Justice have set a Pattern to all the Princes of the present Age, would ever allow of such Proceedings.

When I was discharg'd out of the Guards, there being no Vacancies in the second Troop
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of Horse Grenadier Guards, wherein I had first serv'd, therefore I offer'd my Service in the first Troop, and was approv'd of, and my Character undeniable from the second Troop; but upon hearing how I had been serv'd in the Foot Guards, they would not be concern'd with me upon any Conditions. I then went immediately to his Majesty's Secretary at War, and told him what past betwixt the Officers and me, thinking it was the least he could do, after all my Sufferings, to recommend me to Bread; but he made Answer, that if the Officers of the Horse Grenadiers gave me a good Character, he would give me a very bad one, turning it off with a Smile, and left me to breakfast upon it, for I had not a Half-Penny in my Pocket.

I have often heard that they generally laugh that win; so that if he gain'd any thing by permitting the Officers to keep me sixteen Weeks at Four Pence a Day in the *Savoy*, and to discharge me in such a ridiculous Manner, without any Form of Trial, in order to render me incapable of getting my Bread in my King and Country's Service, he then indeed had some Reason to laugh and act as he did: Whether a Gentleman of so high a Rank and Quality can be prevail'd upon to accept of a green Cabbage Net, or a Cage of Gold Finches, by way of Present, to conceal the Frauds of Officers, that I do not pretend to determine, but

but am in reality of the reverse Opinion, and do actually believe that it was owing in a great Measure, to his Affability and good Nature to the Officers, whose assiduous Adulation, seldom fail of gaining the assendant over courteous genuine Tempers. I am too much conversant with the Arts and Wiles of Men (especially that Sect) to think that any one Gentleman, endow'd with Humanity, can possibly withstand the utmost Efforts of all their Importunities; therefore think it next to an Impossibility to supply that Office and do a Soldier Justice, without all the Qualifications of a surly Philosopher, or (at least) the morose Dispositions of *F---r*, who probably might be fitter to supply such an Office than to command a Regiment.

I only require Justice, according to my Deserts, be it to suffer Death with the utmost Rigour and Severity of the Law, I will more freely embrace it, than to live under this detestable Load of Infamy and Scandal. But on the contrary, if I acquit myself with Honour, and clear my Reputation, and prove any ways serviceable to my King and Country, I shall then esteem it the greatest Happiness that this World can afford, to have it in my Power to be of further Service; and would part with my last Drop of Blood, rather than betray my Trust, or prove a Coward in such a glorious Cause; and hope to make it appear, that no free
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born Subject ever serv'd his Prince with more Zeal, Courage, and Chearfulness, than he that the Officers have been pleas'd to render incapable of getting Bread in his Service. As my Duty and Loyalty to my Prince, and standing Advocate for my Country's just Laws, were the only prevailing Principles that introduc'd all my Troubles; I am most free to sign with my Blood an Act I have so publicly and justly declar'd with my Hand.

As I have inform'd my Readers of three different Corps wherein I have serv'd under the Crown of *England*, viz. the Horse Grenadier Guards, Dragoons, and Foot Guards, I will now give a short Account of the Royal Train of Artillery, which was my fourth and last Service in the Army, and then proceed to what concerns the Publick, and the Kingdom's Interest.

Being refused Admittance in the Horse Grenadier Guards (as I have observ'd before) upon Account of unjust Usage, this Book then not being ready for the Press, I was oblig'd for Support (being resolv'd to try no Relation till I had clear'd my Character) to conceal my Service, both in the Dragoons and Foot Guards, in order to be accepted in the Train of Artillery, where I serv'd about three Months, and in all Appearance was very well approv'd of, till such Times as they heard what Usage I had receiv'd in the

two Regiments aforesaid, and was writing a Book against them; upon which Notice, or soon after, I was struck out of the Muster Roll, and a File of Men sent to *London*, to take my Cloaths, or conduct me Prisoner to *Woolwich*, a Week before the Time of my Leave of Absence was expir'd: but as they did not light of their Prey, I continued in *London* five Days longer; when meeting with an Officer belonging to the Train, who told me, in Presence of other People, that I was discharged five Days before, yet notwithstanding, he said, he was obliged to charge me Prisoner, except I promis'd to go directly with him to *Woolwich*; to which I consented; but at our Arrival there, Part of my Cloaths being left at *London*, therefore I was order'd Prisoner, and so continued, in all, a great Part of two Days and one Night, not having one Penny Subsistence Money allow'd me all that Time; by Reason, as they told me, that I did not belong to them; therefore those, that were the Occasion of such Confinement, are certainly very ignorant of the Laws of this Land, to keep any of his Majesty's Subjects (not belonging to the Army) so long in their Custody; otherwise must be deeply concern'd with some of their Brother Officers in other Corps, in some Frauds or other, which perhaps Length of Time may discover; notwithstanding their great Pretences to

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Justice and Honesty above all the other Corps in the Army.

I own there are some belonging to the Train, whom I believe to be endued with all the Honour and Integrity imaginable, even to such a Strictness, that I think they would scarce do a wrong Thing, knowingly, to Mankind, were it to gain the whole World. But suppose some few should answer to this Opinion in all Respects (which is but a Supposition) yet by the malicious Reports of a contrary Party, to gain some private Ends, they may probably be prevailed upon to oppress the Innocent, and think it Justice at the same Time, by reason that even the most inferior Degree of Officers are granted Admittance, and frequent Conferences with their Superiors, and private Men but seldom; and then are afraid to speak their Grievances against any particular Officer, lest they should incur the Displeasure of the whole: the Train at the first, I suppose, being settled upon a good Foundation, and the Men having Warrants, in a great measure, serves to prevent frequent false Musters, &c. and as their Musters are every Month, I think they seldom get above one Month's Pay by a Man being discharg'd; and I hear they generally take Care to have that. Notwithstanding all these Reasons, and the good Offices of the best experienc'd and justest Officers, the Train, by all Report,

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is infinitely alter'd for the worst in several Respects, and the Duty in particular, which hath been so hard of late, that the private Men have been near half their Time upon it; so that a poor Man who obtains Leave to follow his Trade for a Month or two, or Harvest Work, or any honest Employment, to pay his Debts, he generally finds a great Part of the King's Allowance stopp'd for his Duty; and all occasion'd (as I have heard) either by a certain Gentleman, lately preferr'd, who loves to shew his Authority, or otherwise, by the Instigations of some young Sparks who want Preferment, and made Interest to the Board of Ordnance for an Officer's Guard, in Hopes of their raising a Company or two more; which would not only be making Preferments for the Officers now present, but also several Vacancies for their Sons, Nephews, Kinsmen, Cadets, &c. but this is still keeping the poor Soldiers in a private or low Station, however deserving they may be of Preferment.

If that was their Scheme (as it seems most likely) it fail'd of the desir'd Effect; for instead of two additional Companies, there was an Order for an Augmentation, as I have heard, for only eight Men in a Company, which is but a poor Relief for the private Men, who are oblig'd (by Report) notwithstanding the Augmentation, to mount a great

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many extraordinary Guards to what they formerly did.

Were there any Appearances of Necessity for an Officer's Guard, I should not have mention'd the Duty, was it three Times harder, if possible, than it is; but I never heard of any thing stolen when there was only a Serjeant's Guard kept; for there is nothing material in my Opinion, that requires such a strong Guard; the great Guns, Shells, Mortars, &c. as the Warren wherein they lie is wall'd round, except that Side adjoining to the *Thames*, I think their being so ponderous is a sufficient Guard for them, against six, eight, or ten Men, especially without proper Engines to carry them off; so that a commanding Officer, or Store-Keeper, hath no great Occasion to fatigue the Men, as if they were encamp'd in an Enemy's Country, to prevent their great Guns being stolen.

Therefore it plainly appears to me (how just and considerate soever some Officers in the Train may be) that they are not able to defend the whole Corps from Injustice and Oppressions; and others of the reverse Dispositions, perhaps being jealous from the Imperfections of their own Conduct, might in all Probability suspect this Book to be level'd against them, as well as other Corps; if so, it may reasonably be suppos'd, that they took that arbitrary Liberty of keeping

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me so long Prisoner, to shew their exorbitant Power and Resentment, or to gain an Opportunity for contriving some Stratagem of sending me abroad; or otherwise to prevent my Proceedings; but be that as it will, now I am clear of them, I can easily excuse such a small Wrong, in Comparison to what I received from some Officers of Dragoons, and Foot Guards, whom I think myself oblig'd to proceed against, not only for my own Rights, but also in Justice and Duty to my King and Country; and I intend in the first Place (that my Readers may not be at any more Trouble and Charges) to insert some material Articles of War, and Acts of Parliament, in this Book, and Pieces or Paragraphs of Articles and Acts, by Way of Quotation, all such as I know by Experience to be very much neglected and disobey'd, and leave my Readers to judge the Reasonableness and Necessity for their being put in Practice.

ARTICLE I.

ALL Officers and Soldiers (not having just Impediment) shall diligently frequent Divine Service and Sermon, in such Places as shall be appointed for the Regiment, Troop, or Company to which they belong; and such as either wilfully or negligently absent themselves from Divine Service

or Sermon, or else, being present, do behave themselves indecently or irreverently during the same; if they be Officers, they shall be severely reprehended at a Court-martial; but if private Soldiers, they shall for every such first Offence forfeit each Man Twelve Pence, to be deducted out of their next Pay; and for the second Offence shall forfeit Twelve Pence, and be laid in Irons for twelve Hours; and for every like Offence afterwards shall suffer and pay in like manner; and the Money so forfeited shall be applied to the Relief of the sick Soldiers of such Troop or Company, to which the Offender does belong.

The foregoing Article undoubtedly is very material, for whoever neglect their Duty to their Maker, and Blessed Redeemer, most certainly are not to be depended upon in their King and Country's Service, any further than consists with their own private Interests and momentary Pleasures.

But notwithstanding these gracious Orders, were I oblig'd to find the Abodes and Haunts of Officers on the Sabbath Day, even in Time of Divine Service, I would search the Park, the Mall, the Taverns, and Coffee-houses about St. James's and White-hall, in which Places I should be sure to find more Officers than in all the Churches in and about London. Pray what can be expected from
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the poor illiterate Soldiers, in all Probability too much influenc'd by such bad Examples from their superior Brethren?

And in Garrison what Man, upon Guard, presumes to go to Church, before an Officer, who is the Commandant, goes abroad? And not being ready under Arms, to honour him, is as liable to Punishment as if he had been guilty of Blasphemy, Gaming, Drinking, Debauchery, or any other Irregularities whatsoever. So it plainly appears, that some Officers in the Army (as far as can be conjectur'd from their Actions) think themselves in Duty bound to honour each other before their Maker.

If a Man hath but Money to treat the Serjeants and Corporals, he may be absent from his Guard twelve or fourteen Hours together, and at last return drunk, and disturb the Soldiers who had done his Duty, and yet be protected by his Officers, at the Intercession of these Serjeants and Corporals; but it seldom happens that any Soldier gives Money to go to Church, therefore he is generally return'd absent, and perhaps punish'd for it.

But those Men (as there are too many such in the Army) who, like Spaniels, the more they are beat and bruis'd, the more they fawn upon their cruel Masters. Such as honour and obey their Officers, and oblige them in throwing up their Pay at Request,
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or rather at Command, are readily excus'd from all Duty both to God and their King.

I knew eleven Men lie in a Black Hole twenty-nine Hours, some for going to Church, and others for being absent on a *Sunday* Forenoon at eleven o'Clock, when they were expected to appear before the commanding Officer's Door, to shew their square-toed Shoes, Stock-buckles, Shoe-buckles, Buckle-garters, and other such like Implements of peaceable Warriors; which boyish Toys a great many Tea-Table Officers are more strict in, than Sword or Fire-arms: but as these Trifles had been review'd six Days the preceding Week, let all reasonable People judge what great Necessity there could be for the seventh Review in Time of Divine Service.

I have impartially consider'd the unhappy Circumstances of Soldiers above the rest of Mankind (particularly those that are well inclin'd) in being debarr'd from serving their Maker, by the lawless Power of certain arbitrary Officers, who keep them an unreasonable Time in Prisons and Dungeons, the *Savoy* especially, where the Word of God is scarce ever heard, except in Mockery, and taking his holy Name in vain. As there are so many Chaplains allow'd in Time of Wars and Dangers, if there are none in Time of Peace, it is certainly very requisite and necessary that there should, otherwise all the
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Army's Devotion, upon the Point of an Engagement, can only be compared to the Terror of a Death-bed Sickness at the best.

I heard of a prophane, blasphemous Wretch, who had resolv'd never to pray, till he found himself dying, at which Time he intended to say, Lord have Mercy upon him ; by which he seem'd to be confident, that he should have equally the same Mercy at the Day of Judgment, as those who had spent a great Part of their Time in Fasting and Praying : But (mark the End) instead of repeating the foregoing Words, which he had no Power to utter, he, on the contrary, call'd the D---l to fetch his Soul and Body into Hell, or some such terrible Expressions were the last pious Ejaculations of his departing Soul.

What a shocking Reflection it would be to those Officers (if they did but rightly consider) who detain their Fellow-Creatures such an unreasonable Time from serving their Maker, and in a vile Prison, where there is nothing but a continual Scene of Wickedness and Misery ; but set the Case they kept them no longer under Confinement than was necessary, they must undoubtedly answer their Neglect, in suffering the Soldiers under their Commands to run headlong to the very Extremity and Brink of eternal Ruin. There is no Place of Office or Trust, but what is held under God Almighty, who will certainly

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tainly require them to give an exact Account of their Stewardships; but what Account can those Officers give of the poor abandoned Profligates, who perhaps, for a long Series of Years, never so much as order'd or desir'd them to frequent Divine Worship? It's very much to be fear'd, that the richest Officers are not able to answer for the poorest Soldiers so much by them neglected.

I could almost venture to affirm, that the Duty of a true Christian (if ever it was observ'd by the Majority of Officers) as well as a true and just Order of Discipline, is very much laid aside; but notwithstanding there is still room for Hopes of reviving at least some outward Show of Religion in the Army (tho' the military Officers still continue negligent of their Duty) as it is in the Power both of the ecclesiastical and civil Magistrates to compel them to a more strict Observance of such material Consequences, for a whole Army ought not to be ruin'd by a few ill-dispos'd irreligious Officers, who seem neither to regard the Laws of God, or Man.

How necessary an Amendment of these Matters would be, cannot admit of Dispute, for whom does it so nearly concern as the commanding Officers, to see that those, who are immediately under their Care, discharge their religious, as well as their military Duty; from whence is laid the surest Foundation
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for all other Virtues ? He who forgets, or neglects his Duty to his Maker, can never be expected to be truly zealous in honouring his King, and paying due Obedience to higher Powers. If any Officers should chance to be so stupidly blind, or given to licentious Pleasures, as not to think it worth while for their own Sakes, to practise those Duties that are incumbent on all true Christians, surely the least, they could be expected to do, would be to oblige the inferior Soldiery to a strict Observance of Divine Service.

Provided there were proper Places for such Soldiers as are at Liberty, and dispos'd to frequent the Church ; there ought also to be some Care taken of the poor Prisoners, who are detain'd so many Months in the *Savoy*, belonging to most Corps or Regiments in the Army ; altho' there are several Deserters, and other Criminals, who doubtless deserve to suffer according to Law. But as there can be no Law made for punishing the Soul, all possible Means ought to be us'd to bring them to Repentance ; and the greater Sinners they have been, the greater Merit it would be in saving them. I don't mean to save them in the Black Holes, or *Savoy*, without the Benefit of Clergy, till they perish to Death of Hunger ; that indeed would be a ready Way to bring them to a true Repentance of their listing for Soldiers, but seldom
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or never to a better and more necessary Repentance of their evil Actions.

What I mean is to bring them to a speedier Trial, according to Law, and in the mean time a Chaplain would certainly be absolutely necessary to inform them of the Duties requir'd from true and faithful Soldiers, which, with God's Assistance, might possibly occasion a thorough Reformation, or at least it might make a more sensible Impression in the Hearts of a great many, than any Officer's unlawful Severities; and considering so many Hundreds, I may say Thousands of poor illiterate Men every Year Prisoners, who are kept in Darkness, certainly there is no Prison in his Majesty's Dominions can have more Occasion for a Chaplain, than the *Savoy*; for those, that have the least Thoughts of a future State, would be astonish'd to see their vile cheating Practices, and to hear their wicked, prophane, and blasphemous Expressions, even in Time of Divine Service; whereas if the true Doctrine of Religion was preach'd to them, it might probably occasion the Reformation of a great many thoughtless Men, who through their own Ignorance, and Negligence of their Superiors seem to be in a very miserable and lost Condition.

Much more might very justly be said concerning this Subject, but lest I should be suspected of endeavouring to conceal my
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own Faults under a religious Mask, and also to prevent giving Offence to the Vain-glorious, who may be more desirous of obtaining the Honours and Riches of this World, than the future Rewards of a well-spent Life, I will desist, and leave my Readers to put their Constructions upon it, according to every one's own Discretion: and shall only add this, that if God Almighty is not more merciful at the Day of Judgment, than some Officers in the Army are to their Fellow Creatures, I believe it impossible even for one Remnant to be sav'd; but who is so void of Understanding (especially Men in Trust and Power) as to expect any Favour from the Sovereign Judge of all Mankind, who administer neither Favour nor Justice to their Inferiors, to whom they are appointed Judges, nor very little Justice to their King and Country (but by Compulsion) further than what consists with their own private and worldly Interests?

A R T I C L E III.

Whosoever shall use any unlawful Oath or Execration (whether Officer or Soldier) shall incur the Penalties expressed in the first Article.

In Reference to this Article, the World may judge how much it is observ'd, by the frequent

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frequent unlawful Oaths and Execrations us'd by both Officers and Soldiers, insomuch that they can scarce speak ten Words without intermixing a Volley of Oaths. It's a common Saying amongst the Vulgar, when any Man hath been observ'd to swear more than ordinary, that he swore like an Officer, and far exceeded a private Trooper; but I never knew the foregoing Article put in practice during my whole Service in the Army.

A R T I C L E XVI.

IN case any Officer, Non-Commission Officer, or Soldier, shall be accused of any Capital Crime, or of any Violence or Offence against the Person, Estate, or Property of any of the Subjects of this Kingdom, which is punishable by the known Laws of the Land; the Commanding Officer or Officers of every Regiment, Troop, Company, or Party, is and are hereby required, upon Application made to then Commanding Officer, on behalf of the Party injured, to use his utmost Endeavours to deliver over such accused Person to the Civil Magistrate, and shall also be aiding and assisting to the Officers of Justice in the securing and apprehending such Offender, in order to bring him to Trial. And if any such Commanding Officer shall willfully neglect or refuse, upon such Application as aforesaid, to deliver
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over any such accused Person to the Civil Magistrate, or to be aiding and assisting to the Officer or Officers of Justice in the apprehending such Offender, he shall incur our highest Displeasure, and suffer such other Penalty as by the Act of Parliament is for that Purpose inflicted.

I desire my Readers to observe, that any Commanding Officer, who wilfully neglects or refuses the foregoing Order, shall by the same Rule incur his Majesty's highest Displeasure, besides the Penalty of the Act; which Orders notwithstanding, I insisted that a Serjeant should be a Prisoner, and demanded to go before a Magistrate to make an Affidavit, wherein he had been guilty; the most material Circumstance, I had to alledge against him, was his keeping the Troop Horses upwards of four Months without Oats, he being all that Time the Commanding Officer and Purveyor; but as I suspected his Superiors to be Confederates and Sharers with him (which more fully appear'd by their protecting him) I therefore scrupled intrusting them to be their own Judges, but promis'd to satisfy them in full before a Magistrate; which was refus'd by the Commanding Officer, who told me with an Air of Authority, that he was a proper Magistrate for me, and would allow no other, he having the King's Commission in

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his Pocket for it: but I dare answer, that he had not the King's Commission to keep his Majesty's Horses, the greatest Part of the Winter, without Oats; and according to the foregoing Article, in my humble Opinion, he hath forfeited the Commission he bore, in presuming wilfully to refuse such positive Orders.

A R T I C L E X V I I I .

IF any Officer thinks himself wronged by his Colonel or the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, and shall upon Application to him be refused to be redressed, he is to complain to the General or Commander in Chief of our Forces, in order to have Justice done him; who is hereby required to examine into the same, and to lay it before us, himself, or by our Secretary at War, in order to receive our further Directions.

And if any inferior Officer or Soldier shall think himself wronged by his Captain, or Officer commanding the Troop or Company, he is to complain thereof to the Officer commanding the Regiment, who is hereby required to see Justice done to the Complainant at a Regimental Court-Martial; from which, if either Party think himself not fully righted, he may appeal to a General Court-Martial; where, if upon a second

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Hearing, the Appeal shall prove groundless, or vexatious, the Appellant shall be punished accordingly.

I desire my Readers to consider the Signification of those Words in the foregoing Article, *i. e.* a Regimental Court-Martial; from which, if either Party thinks himself not fully righted, he may appeal to a General Court-Martial. For my own Part, I not only thought myself not fully righted, but also knew myself not righted at all, and on the contrary very grossly wrong'd and abus'd; and notwithstanding I appeal'd, Time after Time, to a General Court-Martial, not only verbally, but also by Petitions and Letters, altho' I never could obtain my Request; therefore it may reasonably be suppos'd, that those Officers (who bolted the Door against Justice) knew themselves guilty of all that they had been accus'd of, and undoubtedly a great many other Things which they might probably suspect were known, and would be discover'd; for Jealousy generally proceeds from a Sense of People's own Imperfections. As they were so very inveterate against me, they certainly had not depriv'd themselves of the Pleasure and Satisfaction of taking my Life away for an Example to all Petitioners, except themselves; provided they had been clear of the Charge.

ARTICLE · XIX.

NO Officer or Soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking Speeches or Gestures to another, upon Pain of Imprisonment, and asking Pardon of the Party offended, in Presence of his Commanding Officer.

The foregoing Article is by the Officers turn'd intirely to their own Advantage, for if any Officer, in what Degree soever, receives the least Provocation (in their own Opinion only) either by Gesture, Speech, or Action, he indeed is sure of having full Satisfaction ; but if a Soldier receives the very grossest Abuses and Provocations, being beat and bruis'd with a Cane, or Handle of a Horse Whip, till he is scarce able to stand, by any inferior Officer, he seldom or never hath any Redress by Application to his Superiors, except it accidentally happens to be some good old experienc'd Officer, who knows the Value of a good Soldier, and will give himself the Trouble of inquiring thoroughly into the Truth, and who was the first or greatest Aggressor.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE XXII.

EVERY Officer commanding a Troop or Company shall, upon due Notice given him by the Commissary of the Musters, or some one of his Deputies, assemble the Troop or Company under his Command, in the next convenient Place, for their being mustered; and if any Officer or Soldier shall happen to be absent from such Muster, by reason of Sickness, or being imployed in recruiting, on Party, or on Furloff, or by a signed Leave from his Colonel or Field-Officer commanding the Regiment; the Officer there commanding such Troop or Company shall produce signed Certificates of such lawful Cause of Absence, or they shall not otherwise be allowed of at the Muster.

And every Officer that shall be convicted of giving, making, or procuring any false Certificate in order to a false Muster, or shall at any time be found guilty of making a false Muster, either by mustering of Servants in the Ranks, or of any Man or Horse not truly belonging to the Troop or Company, shall be cashiered from our Service, and suffer such other Penalty as by the Act of Parliament is appointed.

As to the foregoing Article I hope I have fully answer'd it already, and don't question

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but that a great many are of Opinion that false Musters are almost as common as false Cards and Dice in Gamsters Pockets.

A R T I C L E XXIII.

NO Non-Commission Officer or Soldier shall, by Leave of his Captain, or inferior Officer commanding a Troop or Company, be absent from his Quarters above twenty Days in six Months; unless by a signed Leave from his Colonel, or other Field-Officer commanding the Regiment; who is also to take care that no more than two private Men, at any Time, of the same Troop or Company, may have his Licence of Absence.

And for the Absence of Commission-Officers from Garrison or Quarters, all Colonels and Commanding Officers are to govern themselves according to our Orders for the Attendance of Officers in Quarters.

Certainly none can deny the foregoing Article's being disobey'd, for how do they take care, when Proofs are to be found in most Towns in *Great Britain* to confirm some Officers Negligence and Disobedience to these Orders? The prodigious Number of Faggots absent ten or eleven Months out of twelve (which is not allow'd by any Laws of *England*, except a Law made by the Officers)

Officers) are certainly sufficient to convince the World, what Care they take to observe the foregoing Orders: provided there were no other Officers Servants and absent Favourites, who frequently pass the Musters, without attending any other military Duty.

I have heard that any old Customs, *i. e.* for forty Years, or upwards, are to be preserved inviolably as Laws: If that is really the Case, those Practices I have mention'd are of such long standing, that (provided it is not too late already) there must either be a Stop put to them very quickly, otherwise the Officers, perhaps, may plead that Custom, and carry their Cause, and keep what Numbers of Faggots, and Servants, &c. they please belonging to the Army, even in Defiance to the Legislature of Great Britain.

ARTICLE XXVI.

NO Non-Commission Officer or Soldier belonging to any of our Troops of Horse-Guards, Horse Grenadier Guards, Regiments of Horse and Foot Guards, or any other Troop or Company in our Service, shall be permitted to fettle or keep any kind of Publick House or Shop for the selling of Liquors, Victuals, or other Merchandize, under Pain of being punished for it by a Regimental Court-Martial.

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And every Commission Officer, who shall presume to muster any Person known to be so fittling, or offending, as above, shall be brought to a General Court-Martial, and punished as for making a false Muster.

In answer to the foregoing Article, his Majesty's Subjects (being Sufferers thereby) are very sensible that there are great Numbers of Men belonging to the Army, following almost every Trade or Calling, particularly those that are forbid in the foregoing Article, *viz.* Ale-House Keepers, Victuallers, Chandlers; likewise several petty Runners of Tea, Coffee, &c. undermining the fair Trader; so that it plainly appears, that both Officers and Soldiers, who are design'd for a Safeguard to their King and Country, a Pillar of the Church, and Upholder of the wholesome establish'd Laws, Rights, and Privileges of this Realm; both Officers and Soldiers, I say, are often the first and greatest Breakers and Disobeyers of these Laws, for any Officers, pretending to be ignorant of these Merchandizers, might undoubtedly, with much more Truth and Justice, plead Ignorance to their own Profession and true military Discipline, and also the Duties of Soldiers, which perhaps they never learn'd.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE XXXVI.

NO Soldier, belonging to any of our Troops, or Regiments of Horse or Foot-Guards, or to any other Regiment of Horse, Foot, or Dragoons in our Service, shall hire another to do his Duty for him, or be excused from Duty, but in Cases of Sickness, Disability, or Leave of Absence; and every such Soldier, found guilty of hiring his Duty, as also the Party so hired to do another's Duty, shall be punished at the next Regimental Court-Martial.

And every Non-Commission Officer conniving at such hiring of Duty, as aforesaid, shall be reduced for it; and every Commission Officer, knowing and allowing of such ill Practices in our Service, shall be punished by the Judgment of a General Court-Martial.

And if he shall protect any Person from his Creditors, under Pretence of his being a Soldier, otherwise than is allowed by the present Act of Parliament (except such as do actually serve in the Ranks) and constantly do all the Duties of a Soldier, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the Act of Parliament on that behalf, he shall be cashiered for it.

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The foregoing Article gives a strict Charge against one Soldier being hir'd to do another's Duty, but notwithstanding these Orders, the Officers in several Companies make a very common Practice of hiring five or six Men in a Company, or upwards, out of other Battalions, almost every mounting Day, when their whole Complement to compleat the Guard (the Hirelings included) sometimes did not amount to twenty Men; and if any Commission-Officers should pretend, that they did not know of these Men so hired, it will be a certain Sign, what Care they take of their Companies, to suffer such pernicious Practices to be committed by Non-Commission Officers, without their Knowledge, which is equally the same as if they had committed the Fact themselves.

ARTICLE XXXVIII.

AND to the End that Offenders may in due Manner be brought to Justice, we do hereby direct, that when any Officer or Soldier shall commit any Offence, for which Punishment may lawfully be inflicted by a Court-Martial, the Person so offending may, by Order of the then Commanding Officer upon the Place, either in Writing, or otherwise, be put under Arrest and confined, until he shall be tried by a Court-Martial for the same, or otherwise lawfully discharged.

And

And to the End that Officers and Soldiers may not, by lying long under Confinement, be hindred from doing their Duty, and others be obliged to do it in their Room; we hereby direct, that upon every Offence committed, and not immediately punishable by such corporal Punishment as the there Commanding Officer shall think himself impowered to inflict; he shall forthwith acquaint his Colonel, or the Officer commanding the Regiment, therewith, who is, with all convenient Speed, to summon Officers for composing a Regimental Court-Martial for the Trial and Punishment of such Crimes, or within the Space of eight Days at the farthest after Confinement of any such Offender.

And for all Crimes, Offences, and Differences, which at a Regimental Court-Martial they shall not judge themselves impowered to decide and punish, the Officer then commanding the Regiment shall send to our Secretary at War the Proceedings, Proofs, and Examinations made thereon, in order to obtain our Order, or the Order of our General or Commander of our Forces, for a general Court-Martial thereupon.

The foregoing Article (in Humanity and Compassion to the poor Soldiery) ought more especially to be observ'd: His Majesty being graciously pleas'd to order the commanding Officer of the Regiment, with all convenient
Speed,

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Speed, to summon Officers for composing a Regimental Court-Martial, or within eight Days at the furthest after Confinement of any such Offender ; but these Orders, as the rest I have mention'd, the Officers break through without any Remorse of Conscience, not remembering, or (which is still worse) not regarding from whom they receive them.

Numbers of Men, to my certain Knowledge, have been kept a great many more Weeks in Prisons than they ought to lie Days, by his Majesty's most gracious Orders ; but if the Officers should chance to be at their fine Seats, or otherways taking their Pleasure, perhaps a hundred Miles distance from their respective Regiments, it would be unreasonable to expect them to leave their darling Delights to attend that Duty ; I mean the Fatigues of holding Court-Martials ; especially as speedy Trials are Barrs both to their Pleasures and Profits ; for those Men, that die at the End of four or five Months Imprisonment, being kept upon three or four Pence a Day Allowance all that Time, must have a great deal of their Pay and Arrears due to them ; and as Soldiers Fortunes are generally very small, and perhaps a great Way from their Friends, that there's seldom any Body to call the Officers to an Account : Besides, their Executors, not being vers'd in the Military Law, undoubtedly are afraid to make a Demand, or even speak to
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such powerful Trustees, therefore it is all suppos'd to go into the Officers Pockets, together with a great Part of the five Pounds which is said to be allow'd from the Government for the Burial of each Man. Some indeed are of Opinion, that there is but Forty Shillings allow'd for the Burial of each Soldier; if so, I think that too much, except they were interr'd in a more decent Manner; for considering the Profits arising from that, and the Money for raising Recruits, together with the Arrears due to the deceas'd, it may reasonably be suppos'd, that some Officers get a great Part of Ten Pounds by the Death of each Soldier, especially such as are murdered by long Continuance in Prisons, and wet Dungeons, for want of Subsistence; for as there are no such large Stoppages of Pay and Arrears to be made, by Order of Government, therefore whatever Subsistence the Soldiers want undoubtedly is ingrossed by the Officers.

I knew a Dragoon kept ten Weeks Prisoner at one Time, and, to the best of my Remembrance, upon the small Allowance of Three-Pence a Day, he being wasted almost to a Skeleton; and, to my certain Knowledge, drove to the Necessity of begging Charity of the Town's People, to the everlasting Shame of those *Barbarians* who were the Occasion of it, contrary and opposite to all Humanity and Order of Government

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He, being charg'd with Theft, laid some Part of the Time for the Civil Law, but I think, the Fact not being prov'd against him, was acquitted by the Magistrates, and returned to his Officers, who confin'd him in a Dungeon ; and, at the End of ten Weeks, tried, or at least condemned him at what they call a Regimental Court-Martial ; and he suffer'd Punishment when he was a most deplorable Object of Pity and Compassion, being almost at Death's Door.

N.B. I don't pretend to justify the poor Wretch in the least, but on the contrary believe he had formerly been guilty of Crimes deserving severe Punishment ; but that is no Rule for the Officers to take the liberty of inflicting Punishment for former Crimes. Whoever knows a Man to commit any capital Crime, and neglects to make him answer it, when it is in their Power, may in one Sense properly be said to be guilty of all the rest by him afterwards committed. What I intend by these Observations, is to shew the Inhumanity or Unskilfulness of those Officers who were guilty of such indirect and unlawful Proceedings ; and to shew that even a vile Criminal may possibly receive very unjust Usage, from unskilful or partial Judges ; for besides their confining him ten Weeks, instead of eight Days, in Opposition to the foregoing Orders, they also transgressed

transgressed the Act of Parliament, which is as follows.

Provided also, That no Person or Persons being acquitted or convicted of any capital Crimes, Violences, or Offences, by the Civil Magistrate, shall be liable to be punished by a Court-Martial for the same, otherwise than by cashiering.

These are Facts, which may be prov'd by Hundreds upon Occasion, so it plainly appears, that they either ignorantly or wilfully disobey'd the Orders of both their King and Country, by their Proceedings in punishing that poor Fellow, who was a Foreigner, that scarce understood *English*; but as he spoke *Dutch* pretty well, perhaps he is gone over to acquaint his Countrymen of the great Encouragement there is for Soldiers in *England*; and the Officers probably may be in Expectation of some of them coming over to fill up their short Troops and Companies.

There was a poor simple young Fellow in the Foot Guards, who was either refus'd Leave, or he took a Country Journey without asking; but when he had been some time with his Friends, he return'd to *London*, and waited upon his Officers, who conducted him to the *Savoy*, for a General Court-Martial (as they told him) and added, that
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if he was not hang'd, or shot, he would certainly be most severely punish'd, except he would consent to go to *Gibraltar*, *Port-Mahoon*, or *Georgia*; upon which Account they would forgive him, otherwise no Favour was to be expected: so they left him a Month in the *Savoy* to consider of it; at the End of which finding him not the least inclinable to yield, they therefore loaded him with Irons for a Week or a Fortnight longer, with a Design (as it was suppos'd) to frighten him into Consent; that they might sell him to some of their Brother Officers, belonging to some Marching Regiment abroad, which by Report is become a very common Practice. But the worse Usage the Man received, the more obstinate he prov'd; therefore they brought him to a Regimental Court-Martial only, and had him punish'd, undoubtedly to their own Satisfaction, with a Design to keep him in the Regiment; and afterwards going to a Field Officer to put his Name afresh in the Regimental Book, which Field Officer (as a Man must be very bad indeed that hath no good Principles) was such a Plain Dealer in that Respect, as to intimate to the Officers, that they had too many Scarcrows and Skeletons already, and order'd him to be discharged.

Another Man was imprison'd four or five Months, and us'd all his Endeavours to stay in the Guards, in order (as he often said) to be

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be near his poor old Mother ; yet notwithstanding, he was oblig'd to comply with the Officers Pleasures in sending him abroad, but it was thought (he being a robust, healthful young Fellow) that the Reflections of being sold, and the ill Usage inflicted, together with his short Allowance and long Imprisonment, was the Occasion of his Death, for he fell sick before the Ship set sail, and died in the *Savoy*.

Several other Men, to my certain Knowledge, have been almost at Death's Door, occasion'd by Hunger, ill Usage, and long Imprisonment ; and to preserve Life were oblig'd to go abroad at last.

ARTICLE XLI.

EVERY Non-Commission Officer or Soldier of Horse, Foot, or Dragoons, who shall, at a Regimental Court-Martial, be found guilty of having sold, or wilfully lost or spoiled his Horse, Arms, Clothes, or Accoutrements, or of pilfering and stealing his Comrades, or other Soldiers Clothes, Arms, or Accoutrements, shall be subject to such weekly Stoppage (not exceeding one Half) out of his Pay, as the Court-Martial shall judge sufficient for repairing the same, and suffer Confinement, or such other Corporal Punishment, as in their Judgment the Nature of his Offence may deserve.

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But no Deduction out of any particular Man's Pay, otherwise than is or shall be directed by a Regulation under our Sign Manual, may be made, unless for Crimes of the above Nature, and authorized by the Sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial; nor any general Stoppage or Deductions in Regiments, Troops, or Companies, but by our particular Warrant, or by the Warrant of the General commanding our Forces.

In Answer to the foregoing Article I have already given an Account of several Stoppages, which, I dare answer, the Officers are not intitled to make, by any Regulation as aforesaid; neither have they any particular Warrant but their own Wills to oppress the weak by arbitrary Power.

ARTICLE XLV.

THE foregoing Rules and Articles shall be read and published at the Head of every Regiment, Troop, or Company, mustered; or to be mustered in our Service, once every two Months at farthest; and are to be duly observed by all Officers and Soldiers in our Service; and also by our Companies of Gunners, and other Military Officers of our Trains of Artillery, with such Alterations only, as relate to the Payment of Soldiers Quarters, and Carriages, which

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which, in the Kingdom of Ireland, are to be regulated by the Lord Lieutenant thereof; and in our Islands, Provinces, and Garrisons beyond the Seas, by the respective Governors of the same, according as the Nature of the thing shall require.

The forty-fifth, which is the last Article, plainly shews, that it is his Majesty's most gracious Will and Pleasure, that the foregoing Orders should be read once every two Months at farthest, without Exceptions of any Articles (for are they not all order'd by the same Prince?) but I never heard these Articles, inserted in this Book, publish'd at the Head of any Regiment, Troop, or Company, during my Service in the Army; some Officers read five or six, others perhaps ten or a dozen Pieces of Articles, pick'd out against the Soldiers. I have observ'd them to turn the Book over and over, Leaf by Leaf, and if they chanc'd, by Mistake, to touch upon any Thing against themselves, have made a full Stop, and told the Men that every thing had been read concerning them, which shews those Officers guilty of wilful and voluntary Abrogation, also being necessary to almost every Offence the Soldiers become guilty of; it being morally impossible for Soldiers, who are kept in Ignorance, to obey truly, or do their Duty as becometh their Station.

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Were all these Articles read and publish'd according to Orders, there might be some Possibility of seeing them obey'd; but as the past and present Case stands, no Soldiers can have the Satisfaction of knowing his Majesty's Orders, except those who are at the Charge of buying them; and whoever does that only purchases his own Misery with his Experience, for he is certain of being baited by the Officers, like a young Leveret by a Pack of merciless Hounds, which most Soldiers, who faithfully prefer their King and Country's Interest before that of their Officers, find by too frequent Experience.

The Informations and Discoveries that I have made against Officers of Foot, and Dragoons, amount to upwards of a thousand Pounds Penalty for transgressing his Majesty's Orders and Acts of Parliament, in making false Musters, Stoppages of Pay, &c. which is due to the Informer according to Law; besides their being accountable for all Disgrace, ill Usage, and false Imprisonments they have impos'd upon me, for no other Reason, but making these Discoveries.

In *September* 1736. I gave his Majesty's Secretary at War a List of Witnesses Names, several of which lived in good Repute, who told me, that they would swear to eight or nine Men hir'd in one Regiment of Dragoons, to pass Reviews or Musters, I had
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also a Reserve of several other Witneffes, whose Names I did not then think proper to discover, who would upon Occasion affirm, that those Men so hired were not Soldiers, but several Sorts of Tradesmen, who (as soon as the Reviews or Musters were over) return'd to their former Occupations; and as to Stoppages of poor Soldiers Pay, I think there are few People that question the Truth of it.

I could, upon Occasion, bring Proof of a Man who belong'd to the first Troop of Horse Grenadiers, hir'd for Half-a-Crown to pass a Muster in one of the Regiments of Foot Guards; but what does it avail to mention Proofs of other Men being falsly mustered, when I could not obtain Liberty to prove their listing, procuring double Certificates, and mustering me in two Companies? What I mean, by all these Remarks, is not with a View of receiving fifteen or sixteen hundred Pounds for informing, as is ordered and directed by Act of Parliament; I am not yet so penuriously addicted, nor so stupidly opinionated, as to expect it; altho' the true Intent and Meaning of the Penalty being levied, doubtless, was design'd to encourage his Majesty's Soldiers and Subjects to inform, in Hopes of preventing such Usurpations, and in order to deter all Officers from attempting any such injurious Proceedings; yet I declare that Justice is my only

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Motive,

Motive, and require but a reasonable Expiation, which I have an indisputable Right to demand, for their robbing me of the richest Treasures upon Earth, *i. e.* my Good Name and Reputation (by which I have been depriv'd of Bread, also my Health very much impair'd by unjust Imprisonments,) and if it is my Sovereign's gracious Will and Pleasure to forgive their past Actions in Dependence of a future Amendment, I rather choose (upon the foregoing Conditions) to quit the whole Penalty of the Act, than to expose so many Officers in the *British* Army to the Shame and Disgrace of being cashier'd for such scandalous Practices.

As there have been so many private Attempts to buy the Copy of this Book out of my Hands, likewise several other advantageous Proposals offer'd, from Persons unknown, by which I have great Reason to suppose, that those Officers concern'd, or any ways instrumental to my Sufferings, would much rather contribute to a suitable Satisfaction, than to have their Names and Actions publickly expos'd before a Court of Justice.

But if they should resolve to join their whole Forces (which undoubtedly are very numerous) against a single Man, I most humbly hope, that my King and Country, whom I have to the utmost of my Power endeavour'd to serve, will compel them to do

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do me Justice in one Case or other; but I sincerely believe that the Officers will prevent a Trial, if possible, as they have done hitherto, except they can seduce, or force some of the Witnesses, who are under their Command, to forswear themselves, and favour their Designs; but I am of Opinion, that their whole Estates, apply'd to that Use, can't bias all the Witnesses that I have to bring; therefore if I am oblig'd to expose them to the publick, I shall expect all the Penalties that I can prove against the Acts relating to false Musters, Stoppages of Pay, &c. which Acts are as follows.

Penalty on Officers making false
Musters, &c.

AND be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Officer that shall make any false or untrue Muster of Man or Horse, and every Commissary, Muster-master, or other Officer, who shall wittingly or willingly allow or sign the Muster Roll, wherein such false Muster is contained, or any Duplicate thereof, upon Proof thereof upon Oath made by two Witnesses before a General Court-martial to be thereupon called (which is hereby authorized and required to administer such Oath) shall for such Offence be forthwith cashiered and displaced from

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such

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such his Office, and shall be thereby disabled to have or hold any Civil or Military Office or Employment within this Kingdom, or in his Majesty's Service, and shall likewise forfeit One hundred Pounds.

**Muste-Master to give Notice of
Muste to the Mayor, &c.**

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Commissary or Muste-master, upon any Muste to be made, had, or taken by him or them, shall, by a convenient Time before such Muste made, give Notice to the Mayor, or other Chief Magistrate or Officer of the Place where the said Soldiers so to be mustered shall be quartered, who is hereby required to be present at every such Muste, and give his utmost Assistance for the discovering any false or untrue Muste there made, or offered to be made; and that every such Commissary or Muste-master, making or taking such Muste, that shall neglect to give such Notice as aforesaid, or shall refuse to take the Aid and Assistance of such Mayor, Chief Magistrate, or Officers, where the Soldiers so to be mustered shall be quartered, shall forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds, and shall be discharged from his Office; and no Muste-Roll shall be allowed, unless the same be signed by the said Mayor,

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or other Chief Magistrate, or Officer, respectively: But in case such Mayor, or other Chief Magistrate, or Officer, shall not, upon due Notice given them, attend such Muster, or shall refuse to sign such Muster-Roll, without giving good and sufficient Reasons for such his Refusal, that then the Commissary may proceed to muster such Regiment, Troop, or Company, without incurring the said Penalty; and such Muster-Roll shall be allowed, though not signed as aforesaid: Provided, that Oath be made before any of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace within Forty eight Hours after such Muster; and the said Muster-Roll shall then be produced, and examin'd by the said Justice of the Peace, who is hereby required to sign the same, if there shall appear to be no good or sufficient Objection to the same.

Forfeiture how to be levied.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Forfeiture shall be to such Person or Persons that shall inform, immediately to be paid out of the Arrears of such Officer's Pay as shall knowingly offend, upon Conviction before the Court-martial, by Order of the said Court, to the Paymaster, if such Officer so offending shall have any Arrears: And if there shall be

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no Arrear, the Court-martial shall immediately give Order to seize the Goods of such Officers so offending, and sell them for Payment of such Forfeiture to the Informer, rendring the Overplus to the Owner; and if such Officer so offending shall have no Goods, then he shall be sent to the common Gaol, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for the Space of six Months; and the said Court-martial is hereby obliged to discharge such Informer, if a Soldier, from any further Service, if he shall demand the same.

Penalty on Agent, &c. detaining Officer's or Soldier's Pay.

And be it further enacted, That if any Paymaster, Agent, or Clerk of any Garrison, Regiment, Troop, or Company, shall wilfully detain or withhold, by the Space of one Month, the Pay of any Officer or Soldier (Clothes, and all other just Allowances being deducted) after such Pay shall be by him or them received; or if any Officers, having received their Soldiers Pay, shall refuse to pay each respective Non-Commission Officer and Soldier their respective Pay, when it shall become due, at the Rate of Seventeen Shillings and Six-pence per Week for each Corporal of Light-horse, Fourteen Shillings per Week for each Trumpeter and private Trooper,

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Trooper, Nine Shillings and Eleven Pence per Week for each Dragoon, Nine Shillings and Four Pence per Week for each Serjeant, Six Shillings and Two Pence per Week for each Corporal, Five Shillings per Week for each Drummer, Four Shillings per Week for each private Soldier of his Majesty's Three Regiments of Foot Guards, and Six Shillings per Week to each Serjeant, Four Shillings and Six Pence per Week to each Corporal and Drummer, and Three Shillings per Week to each Foot Soldier of any other Regiment or independent Company; and at the End of every Two Months to account for One Shilling per Week to each Serjeant, and Two Pence per Week to each Corporal and Drummer, and Six Pence per Week to each Foot-Soldier; the said One Shilling per Week, Two Pence per Week, and Six Pence per Week, being the Remainder of the Subsistence of each Serjeant, Corporal, Drummer, and Foot-Soldier; then, upon Proof thereof before a Court-martial, as aforesaid, or a Court of General Officers, to be for that Purpose held and summoned by his Majesty's Order, every such Paymaster, Agent, Clerk, and Officer, so offending, shall be discharged from his Employment, and shall forfeit to the Informer, upon Conviction before either of the said Courts, One hundred Pounds, to be levied as aforesaid, and shall be utterly disabled to have or hold any civil Office or Employment within this Kingdom,

or

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or in his Majesty's Service; and the Informer, if a Soldier (if he demands it) shall be, and is hereby discharged from any further Service; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

No Pay-master, &c. to make Deductions out of Officers or Soldiers Pay.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty fourth Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and thirty five, no Paymaster General, or Paymaster of the Army, Secretary at War, Commissary, or Muster-master, or any other Officer whatsoever, or their under Officers, shall receive any Fees; or make any Deductions whatsoever, out of the Pay of any Officer or Soldier in his Majesty's Army, or from their Agents, which shall grow due from and after the said Twenty fourth Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and thirty five, other than the usual Deductions for Clothing, and the Twelve Pence in the Pound to be disposed as his Majesty shall think fit, and the One Day's Pay in the Year for the Use of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, and such other necessary Deductions as shall from time to time be directed by his Majesty under his Royal Sign Manual.

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Treasury may issue the Money due for Clothing every two Months.

And for the Encouragement of the due and well Clothing of the Troops, be it hereby further enacted, That the Lord High Treasurer, or the Commissioners of the Treasury for the Time being, may, if he or they see convenient, at the End of every two Months, issue the Money due for Clothing to the several Regiments, Troops, and Companies, notwithstanding the Muster-Rolls have not been duly return'd: And the respective Paymasters are hereby directed to make Deductions of all the Off-reckonings, and to pay the same to such Person or Persons only, as have a regular Assignment for Clothes by him or them delivered to the said Regiment, Troop, or Company, and the Receipt of such Person or Persons, having, or being lawfully intitled to such Assignment, to be, from time to time, taken for the same; and when no such Assignment appears, the Off-reckonings to remain in the Hands of the said Paymaster respectively, for the Use of the Regiment, Troop, or Company, until a new Contract for Clothing and Assignment is made.

Muster-

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**Muste-Rolls to be closed on the Day
of Muster.**

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Commissary-General of the Musters, or his Deputies, shall, upon every Muster taken by him or them respectively, of any Regiment, Troop, or Company, in his Majesty's Service, close the Muster-Rolls of the said Regiment, Troop, or Company, upon the Place, the same Day the Muster is taken; and shall return one of every the said Rolls, so taken, in Parchment, to the Paymaster-General of his Majesty's Guards and Garisons, or to such Paymaster respectively, under whose Care the Payment of such Forces shall be; and one of the said Rolls so taken, to the Comptroller or Comptrollers of the Accompts of the Army, the fourth Day after the said Rolls shall be respectively closed, if in London, or within Twenty Miles distance from the same; and if at further distance, by the next Post after the said Rolls shall be respectively closed: And no Alterations or Indorsement shall be made in or upon the said Muster-Rolls, other than in the case of Orders of Leave, or Dates of Commissions, and other than involuntary Errors or literal Mistakes in writing or transcribing the said Muster-Rolls,

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upon pain of forfeiting their respective Employments, and the Sum of Twenty Pounds, to any Person that will sue for the same, for every such Offence.

How the Account of every Regiment shall be kept.

*And be it enacted, That there shall be an exact Account of all Monies due, according to the Muster-Rolls, to every Regiment in his Majesty's Service made between the Paymaster-General, or other respective Paymasters of the Forces, for the time being, and the Colonel of every such Regiment, or the Agent by such Colonel respectively appointed and authorized to receive the Pay thereof, from time to time (that is to say) when Four Months become due, an Account shall be stated, as aforesaid, for the two preceding Months; and after the said Account shall be so made up and perfected, it shall be registred in a Book to be kept for that Purpose in the Pay-Office, and there subscribed by such Paymaster General, or other respective Paymaster, or his Deputy, and the Colonel or Agent of the Regiment, who, together with the said Paymaster, made up the same; and a Duplicate thereof, by them respectively signed, shall be given to the said Colonel or Agent, without any Fee or
Reward*

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Reward to be paid for the same: Which Colonel or Agent shall deliver to each Captain of the Regiment an Account of so much thereof, as respectively appertaineth to him, and his Troop or Company, and the inferior Officers or Soldiers thereof; and the Balance, which shall remain upon making up every such Account as aforesaid, and also all other Money, as then shall become due to every such Regiment, shall be, by the said Paymaster-General, or other respective Paymaster, paid to the said Colonel or Agent respectively, at such time as his Majesty shall direct: And the Paymaster-General, or other respective Paymaster for the time being, offending herein, shall forfeit, for every such Offence, One hundred Pounds to any Person or Persons, who shall sue for the same in any of his Majesty's Courts of Record. And if any Deputy of the said Paymaster, or any Agent of a Regiment, shall offend in the Premises, upon Proof thereof made, such Deputy or Agent shall ipso facto lose his Place, and be incapable of that or any other Office for the future, and shall be liable to pay Two hundred Pounds to any Person who shall inform or sue for the same, by Action, Bill, Suit or Information, in any Court of Record at Westminster, wherein no Essoign, Protection, Wager of Law, or more than one Impar lance shall be allowed: And if any Colonel of a Regiment shall offend therein,
such

such Colonel shall forfeit, for every such Offence, One hundred Pounds to any Person or Persons, who shall sue for the same, to be recovered as aforesaid.

When the General came to review the Regiment, not having Opportunity of Speech, I wrote him a second Letter, wherein I gave an Account of some Frauds and Proceedings against his Majesty's Orders, and Acts of Parliament, expecting to be sent for to relate the whole ; but instead of hearing my Complaints, he call'd me out of the Ranks to the Head of the Regiment, when under Arms, and order'd me into the Dungeon again ; and told me two or three Times, in the greatest Passion and Fury imaginable, before a Crowd of Spectators, that he would make me beg to be hang'd before he had done with me ; notwithstanding I never had begg'd any thing but Justice ; therefore I thought a Gentleman of his great Power and Authority might afford me that, altho' I have found since by Experience, that I begg'd for Justice (as the Poor often do for an Alms) where it was not to be had ; but on the contrary, he offer'd to draw his Sword several Times threatening to stab me, for presuming to look into Acts of Parliament, which, as I take it, was a ridiculous, and even a tyrannical Expression of a Commander : for most certain the Laws of Arms are not design'd

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to be intirely lock'd up in Officers Trunks, but to be publish'd, as Rules for the Direction of all Military Men, from the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces to a private Centinal. Undoubtedly all Officers and Soldiers ought to be conversant in the Laws that direct their Actions; and I am most certain, that such Officers, as act the just Part, can apprehend no Danger from their Soldiers being acquainted with the Military Laws; but for a General, who represents princely Authority, to offer personal Violence, and sully a Hand and Sword in order to butcher a Man, whose Hands were bound by the Laws of God and Man, which are to me the strongest Bonds upon Earth; therefore, in my Opinion, it shew'd a most ungenerous and ungentleman-like Action; for I value my Life, and Character especially, as much as my Superiors in Power, Fortune, and great Riches, can do theirs; which I think every Man in low Circumstances ought to do; and in one Sense a great deal more, for a rich Man's Character is seldom enquir'd into, and then not to be stain'd, but upon very great Misdemeanours indeed: but a poor Man's Reputation, at the best, is liable to be blasted by every Upstart in Power, by which he is often thrown out of all Business, shunn'd and despis'd by his Friends (if he had any before) and perhaps forced to take to some ill Course of Life, or perish

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to Death for want of Subsistence ; a poor Man, however undeservedly disgrac'd, is liable to all these, and several other Hardships, which seldom or never happen to the richest and greatest Criminals.

Reasons, why the Centinals in his Majesty's Foot Guards ought to be accounted with every two Months, for Six-pence a Week Arrears, according to Act of Parliament, may be seen in the weekly Rates in this Book ; by which the Officers are order'd, at the End of every two Months, to account for one Shilling a Week for each Serjeant, and Two-pence a Week for each Corporal and Drummer, and Six-pence a Week for each Foot Soldier ;

The said One Shilling a Week, Two-pence a Week, and Six-pence a Week, being the Remainder of the Subsistence of each Serjeant, Corporal, Drummer, and Foot Soldier.

The foregoing Act (as I take it) makes it fully appear, that the three Regiments of Foot-Guards are equally tolerated to be accounted with, for Twelve-pence a Week, Two-pence a Week, and Six-pence a Week, according to their several Stations, as any other Regiment, or Independent Company in his Majesty's Service ; if so, the Officers are undoubtedly still accountable, either to the Government, or to the Serjeants, Cor-
G 2 porals,

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porals, Drummers, and Foot Soldiers, for all the Twelve-pences, Two-pences, and Six-pences, stopp'd from them, from the very first commencing of the Act to this present Time.

I have lately heard of a Proceeding, which if true (as it seems very probable) may in some measure strengthen my Report of false Musters, and gain Belief of such as might otherways think those unwarrantable Actions so unnatural as to be impracticable; the Proceeding was as follows.

An Officer observing one Man to pass the General three times in one Day, in Review or Muster; and he was going the fourth time round, when the Officer (being an Adjutant) was pleas'd to turn him back, saying, that he had pass'd three times very well, but told him to beware of the fourth; and ask'd some of his Brother Officers, how many more such Men they had in their Companies?

I have heard that Officer extoll'd for his Justice, in stopping him the fourth time; but I am apt to think that he would have been much more deserving of Applause, provided that he had stopp'd him before the General the second time going round; who might have pass'd him ten times in one Day, if he had so pleas'd, without any Imputation to the Adjutant, in Case he had discharged his own Duty; but to know of his passing so often, and not reporting him, appears to be

be a gross Abuse and Imposition upon his General in taking the Power out of his Hands, by hiding what was his Duty to discover, and also concealing the bad Practices of Officers, who had employ'd the Man to fill up their short Companies; it will (questionless) be full soon for him to take those Liberties if ever he comes to be a General himself.

But these Practices have been so common of late, that some Officers have been observ'd even to make a Diversion of Reviews and Musters, and seem to hold them only as a ceremonial Form, and, no doubt, are highly delighted with the Fancy, especially when they consider the great Command they bear, and awful Authority they sway over such Numbers of Men; but if some Officers Actions were to be strictly examin'd, they might probably have more Dread upon their Spirits, than those poor Soldiers whom they knock down, as Butchers do Oxen, if they chance to look on one Side, lest they should spy some Men falsly muster'd in the Ranks; and even the Non-Commission Officers have the Assurance to exercise their Cudgels at Pleasure upon private Men, being encouraged by some Officers so to do; who, in most Cases, stand by them to such a Degree, that there is scarce ever any Redress for the poor oppress'd Soldiers, who are liable to be wrong'd, and grossly abus'd by all Degrees

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of Officers, from a Colonel to a Corporal; and Commission-Officers knowing themselves guilty of Neglects, and likewise of several unjustifiable Practices, which Non-Commission Officers are acquainted with, therefore to keep them secret are oblig'd to allow them a great many unsufferable Liberties.

I think it a very great Misfortune to those Troops, who are left, ten or eleven Months of the Year, under the Command of these inferior Officers; for most certain all good, diligent, and faithful Soldiers are generally the best used, best satisfied, and most obedient, when commanded by proper Officers, by reason that it very rarely happens that they are preferr'd by Merit to Serjeants, or chosen as Patterns of Honesty and true Courage; but generally such as are most fawning, flattering, and cringing to their Officers, being most likely for their Purposes, who creep into Favour by dissembling, base, mean, and ridiculous Actions; and frequently such as give Reasons to suspect their infecting the whole Army with Treachery or Cowardise; except those that happen to be made by the Instigation of such Gentlemen as are endued with real Honour, who will not be prevail'd upon to countenance or encourage any Vice for the Lucre of Gain: such Officers doubtless make choice of Merit; and I actually believe, that the most effectual Method of knowing any Serjeants Merits is to be

thoroughly

thoroughly acquainted with the Dispositions of those Officers who first recommended them to that Preferment.

Who will not look upon it as a very gross Imposition, to compel one Man to supply three Mens Duties, and not to make the least Recompence? Whereas, if every private Man belonging to the Guards were to perform his own Duty, their proper Tour of mounting would but go round once in about fifteen Days, and in that Case, what with their small Pay, and some honest Employment betwixt the King's Duty, every industrious Man might have a Chance to live; but as the past and present Case stands, what with triple Duty, frequent Fatigues, and the Train of Impositions attending them; all honest and constant Duty-men, having no other Dependence, are weaken'd to such a Degree for want of Bread and Necessaries of Life, that they scarce are able to bear the Weight of their own Arms, much less to stand in Opposition against an Enemy, if Occasion should require.

This I take to be the real Case of all honest and constant Duty-men, if it be allow'd that there are any such, and I hope there are a great many in his Majesty's three Regiments of Guards; yet I own it to be my real Opinion, that there are more worthless Fellows therein, than in double the Number of Men together in *Great-Britain*,

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by reason (as I have observ'd before) that the Officers kidnap and traffick in them as the Merchants do in the *Negroes*, and make no more Difference betwixt two Men of the same Stature, than the Money which one might cost them more than the other.

I will now endeavour to set forth, not only as I judge, but what I have seen or heard from creditable Authors, concerning these unfortunate Wretches that bring a Scandal upon the Army; who, having neither Friends, Trades, Money, Manners, nor Characters, to recommend them to any honest Employment; therefore offer their Service in the Army, concluding with the Old Proverb, that *Half a Loaf is better than no Bread*; and Officers, who take Advantages of poor Fellows Necessities, seldom give them any considerable Advance-Money, but consent to list them, provided they will enter for little or nothing, rather than give two or three Guineas to encourage a good Man, with a fair and undeniable Character; and when they have patch'd up their short Troops and Companies with these Vagabonds, they are oblig'd to trust them with a small Stock of Linnen to do their Duty in, and stop it out of their Subsistence, which Linnen the poor unfortunate Wretches are frequently oblig'd to sell or pawn, perhaps for Half the Money, that their Officers charg'd for it, to avoid perishing of Hunger.

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The next Guard Day, not having Necessaries fit to mount, they are frequently sent to the Black-Hole or *Savoy*, for some considerable Time, and perhaps severely punish'd, without consulting their Emergencies; but these Severities only harden and drive them to pursue the same, or some more desperate Undertaking, but seldom or never make any conceivable Reformation; for as soon as they are intrusted with more Linnen, or other Necessaries, they are apt to go to the same Market again and again, so often as they receive them; therefore what at first was meer Necessity, through ill Usage, becomes a Custom; for Men who do not value their Characters, or have none worth preserving, frequently run the Risque of all Severities to gain their Ends another Way; as may be seen by certain Officers, who, I suppose, fancy themselves above Scandal, and venture their Commissions, only for the Lucre of a few private Men's Pay. To these Vagrants as above mention'd (to their Shame be it spoken) the Officers intrust a great part of the King's Duty.

Some have been punish'd for Begging, and not without Reason, as it is certainly a Scandal to the Army; but soon after they had suffer'd, they took to the same Employment; and being catch'd the second Time by Officers, who shew a natural Aversion to all Beggars, but themselves; therefore order'd
double

double Punishment for Example to others ; but it plainly appears, that some follow that Employment still, and can't bear the Thoughts of being depriv'd of their former Calling ; altho' it is now look'd upon to be the least profitable and most dangerous for a Soldier, especially in *London*, where there are so many Officers and their Followers, and such prodigious Numbers of officious Informers, Kidnappers, and Affidavit-men ; so that a poor starving Soldier can't ask Charity of one, without Danger of being knock'd down and arrested by another ; so for their Maintenance often take to bullying, drinking, and bilking of Landladies ; turning false Evidences, making it their Business to cheat and trapan People when in Liquor, and taking Men up, on a pretended Suspicion of Desertion, meerly for the Sake of a Reward, or (which is equal to them) to extort Money for setting the poor innocent Country-fellows at Liberty.

But some poor Wretches have even been known to arrive at higher Pitches of Wickedness, *viz.* Foot-pads, Pick-pockets, Shop-lifting, House-breaking, and even the most cruel, barbarous Murders and Robberies, to the woful Experience of his Majesty's Subjects ; which, questionless, is owing, in a great measure, to their ill Usage and small Support ; otherwise they might be expected to behave with as much Honesty as the rest of the World ; for it is not a Red Coat alone
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that alters a good Man's Principles; but it plainly appears, that the continual Train of Vices attending the Army frequently make a bad licentious Man more vicious.

I have often observ'd frequent Murmurings and Disturbances, amongst Publicans, and several others of his Majesty's Soldiers and Subjects, occasion'd by the billeting of Fagots, who seldom or never lie at their Quarters; but being in most favour with the Officers, to whom they throw up their Pay, therefore seldom fail of receiving three or four Shillings a Month, each Fagot, by virtue of their Billet, which Stratagem enables the Officers to pay, or pacify their Fagots with the Publicans Money; but the poor helpless Duty-men are forced to take their Leavings, and suffer themselves to be kennel'd and coupled, as Dogs are, in little poor beggarly Houses, like Hog-sties, where they can neither have Money, nor sufficient Quarters, which often makes a great deal of Work for the trading Justices.

Provided the Fagots had any Right to Billets, they ought nevertheless to stay till those Men were serv'd, who supply their Duty, being about twenty Men in each Company, who ought in Justice to be separated and distinguish'd from the Fagots, in their Quarters, as well as in their Duty. I mean, by billeting them nearest the Parade, where their Duty chiefly lies; but instead of that,

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that, a great many of the Fagots are billeted within one Mile of the *Park*, and the Duty-men as far as *Hamstead*, *Highgate*, or over the Water in *Southwark*, and the little Sots-Holes in *Rotherbith*, *Ratcliff-Highway*, &c. where the Landladies perhaps don't clear so much, besides maintaining their Families, as will pay their Soldiers, or find them in sufficient Quarters.

There are other Inconveniencies attending the Soldiers, arising from the Fagots having the best Billets; which occasions the Duty-men to be quarter'd in the most disorderly Houses, where they are sure of being the worst us'd, if they are not condescending to every Bully, Rake, and Common-Jilt; and conceal all their villainous, disrespectful, and traiterous Aspersions and gross Reflections upon the whole Government; the dutiful Soldier, resenting any of these unsufferable Reproaches, is almost sure of having a Warrant serv'd upon him, and sent to some common Gaol (for these disorderly Houses seldom want false Evidences) otherwise beat, bruised, and kick'd out of Doors; and when they go to mount Guard, instead of their Officers enquiring into the Occasion of these Disorders, and bringing the Aggressors to Justice, they frequently send the Soldiers to the Black-Hole or *Savoy*, for quarrelling and having Black Eyes.

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I have heard of several Men who were in Circumstances to pay all their just Debts, but their Principles were so base, that they rather chose to be skreen'd in the Army, by attending Reviews and Musters, which is the chief Duty requir'd of Fagots; but instead of their receiving Lifting-Money, I hear that some pay for being protected in their Villainies, in order to bilk their honest Creditors; which gives a great deal of Reason to suspect, that the Army can't be altogether a true Protection to its Country, whilst in any measure it becomes a Protection to Knaves.

Therefore I think, and dare almost venture to affirm, that none in Justice ought to be protected by the Army, but such as do the constant Duty of Soldiers. As to those that do no Duty, but, on the contrary, occasion a perpetual Disgrace and Scandal upon the whole Profession by bilking and trading with other People's Money, under the borrow'd Name of Soldiers: those, I say, can have no Manner of Right to be protected in any such base deceitful Practices, nor ought Billets to be extorted for them, which at present oppresses his Majesty's Subjects, by obliging them to pay double instead of single Billets. Neither ought an Officer at any time to intrust such perfidious Fellows as Guards to the sacred Persons of the Royal Family, it
being

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being (if rightly consider'd) an extraordinary Charge for honest Men.

I shall now endeavour to make appear that the Character of a Soldier (notwithstanding the reproachful Degressions of the disaffected and the vulgar) of all Professions is the most honourable, and those of real Probity are, without Dispute, of the most immediate and important Service to their King and Country, and ought not in any respect to be ridicul'd; for whoever presumes to despise any such Officers or Soldiers under the Crown, are, in my Opinion, guilty of the greatest Disrespect and Irreverence to their Sovereign, under whose Protection they have their Liberties; and questionless would shew their Guilt and Ingratitude to higher Powers, in a more plain audacious Manner, were it not for Fear of open Punishment.

All such, as hold the Profession of Soldiers in Derision, might (if they would look at home) find a great many vile ignominious Wretches of their own, or in any other Profession; therefore they ought to consider how they would like to bear all the Reflections that their most vile licentious Brothers are deserving of, before they presume to censure a whole Army, that stands betwixt them and all Dangers. Any judicious Person must doubtless look upon all such slanderous Reproaches to proceed from a disloyal Disposition, or otherwise, from base, mean, igno-

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rant and illiterate Wretches, that deserve more Discipline than the poor Soldiers, whom they frequently reflect upon, to bring them to a more sensible Idea of the Duty and Loyalty due from Subjects, as well as Soldiers, especially to a Sovereign, whose chiefest Care is constantly imploy'd for the Welfare and Safety of his Kingdom, and the Publick's Interest.

As the Name of Soldiers derives from Princes, and great Commanders fam'd in Arms, the Subjects ought therefore to have a more peculiar Regard to the Sword, but still more particularly, as being the Defender of the true Protestant Church. His Majesty, by Report, hath even condescended to call the private Men his Brother Soldiers, altho' several of our upstart Officers seem to think themselves undervalued in being term'd as such, and look upon their Inferiors with such Contempt and Scorn, as if they thought them deserving a worse Name, or themselves a great deal better; altho' it is much to be fear'd, that a great Part of these Officers are not in the least deserving the Name of Soldiers; neither are they sensible of the Honour conferr'd upon them; by reason, as I take it, that some Officers, for want of Action, are so bigotted and blinded with Pride and Presumption, and the private Men stupified, to such a Degree, with Poverty and Oppressions, that some of each Station
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are so intolerably ignorant, or base, as to side with the Vulgar, and shew a natural Aversion to the very Name of Soldiers; in short, their Behaviour and Irreverence being so obnoxious, which I think, in a great measure induces the Populace to ridicule the whole Profession, insomuch that they frequently make use of the Name of a Soldier as a Bugbear or Monster, to frighten or quiet their Children.

In the next Place, Soldiers of real Probity are the most disinterested of any Profession now extant, who voluntarily venture their Lives without any future Prospects of worldly Riches; I own that the Professors of Law, Gospel, Trade, and Commerce, of all Kinds whatsoever (provided they truly discharge their several Trusts) are all very serviceable to their Country; but yet, if rightly considered, most Businesses are carried on by the several Occupiers, with a sort of penurious Prospect of serving themselves, which I think is the very Case with a great many Farmers, Traders, and Usurpers in the present Army, that in a great Measure occasions scandalous Reflections to be cast upon the whole. But Soldiers of an unfeigned Zeal, who not only hazard their whole Fortunes, great or small, but also freely venture their Lives in their King and Country's Service, which is very rarely done by any other Profession; therefore they

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they may truly be said to be endued with the most noble, brave, and generous Dispositions.

As an Instance of a Soldier who hath serv'd in a high Station may probably be most agreeable to the Publick, I will refer the brave *Generalissimo*, late of the Emperor's Army to their Considerations, viz. the late renowned Hero Prince *Eugene*, of glorious Memory; who, after a long Series of Years in hazardous Campaigns, as he had a full Command of the Army, doubtless there were Opportunities enough to acquire immense Riches, provided he had been penuriously inclined; but on the contrary, when he made his Will, by all Circumstances that can be conjectur'd from Report, he only left some few small Legacies amongst his Relations for Remembrances, and bequeath'd the greatest Part of his Substance to his Imperial Majesty, under whom he had acquir'd it, the better to enable him to carry on the War against all his Enemies and Opposers; which, I think, was an unfeigned Precedent of the highest Gratitude and Generosity.

That illustrious General and Soldier, by Report, took the greatest Pleasure in hearing and seeing Men act the brave Part of Soldiers; and respected even an Enemy of a gallant Behaviour, that perform'd the Part of a true Soldier; and never thought himself degraded, but rather applauded in being

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term'd as such. There might be some exquisite Precedents given of such as have really deserved the Name of true Soldiers, of all Ranks and Degrees, even from a Prince to a private Centinel; and provided the Army were not infected with such a numerous Body of the reverse Disposition, I dare venture to affirm, that the Sword would have no Competitors in Generosity and genuine Bravery.

It hath been remarkable in most Ages, that some Officers have procured large Estates in the Army, notwithstanding they had little, or no other Dependence; when other Officers of a superior Rank had not saved one Quarter of the Money, neither were they ever known to be any ways extravagant, but behav'd, in all Respects, as became Gentlemen of Honour and true Courage, following their Leaders through all Dangers, preferring their Duties to their Prince before the greatest Riches; but those who had got Estates under the Crown in Time of Peace, and never saw the Face of a profess'd Enemy, or perhaps never intended it; yet might have a great deal of Reason to suspect private ones, occasioned by their own former Practices; therefore as they had got Money sufficient, to prevent all Dangers, they threw up their Commissions, being resolv'd to sleep in whole Skins, and undoubtedly laugh'd at the poor honourable
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Officers, who had not taken the same Care for a Rainy Day: but in all Probability a great many Officers in the present Army may follow their Examples; for by all Relation, no Officers in the Universe ever got more Riches, or deserv'd less, than a great many of these present, under the Crown of *England*.

In all Probability several of these pretty Boys, who make a charming Figure at a Lady's Tea-table, Coffee-house, or Tavern, soliciting their chief Friends in Power for Commissions in the Army, would have very little to say on that Subject in Time of real Danger; but on the contrary, some have even been suspected to hide in Garrots, and Cellars, like Taylors, and Fresh-water Sailors, for Fear of being pressed; but when the Dangers are over, I suppose they venture to creep out of their Holes, like the Cuc-kooes, that sleep all Winter, but make a prodigious Noise in the Spring; and even the former Conduct of those Gentlemen, as they stile themselves, of the worst Behaviour, in Time of Wars and Dangers (provided they have great Friends in Power) is seldom reckon'd any Disgrace or Hinderance to their future Preferment, when the Peace is proclaim'd; and a Parcel of those Weather-cocks, *alias* Dunghill-cocks, strutting at the Heads of Regiments, Troops, or Companies, generally make more Bullying, Mischief,

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and Confusion, amongst the poor Soldiers, than all the Officers that fought their Sovereign's Battles.

All his Majesty's gracious Rules and Orders ought undoubtedly to be most strictly observ'd and obey'd by all Officers and Soldiers; but why are not these which are printed in this Book, and taken from the Original, observ'd, as well as those against Mutiny and Desertion? For it is evident, that only two or three Persons, joining in a Petition for their just Dues, have been condemned both at Regimental and General Court-martials, and suffer'd accordingly; and these frequent Wrongs, Abuses, and unjust Sufferings are certainly the real Occasion of most Deserters, for Necessity hath no Law; therefore these Men are deem'd as Mutineers, for only seeking to be righted; and others, who desert to prevent Hunger and ill Usage, and only fly for Refuge, in my humble Opinion, ought not in Justice to suffer for it; but first let them have their just Dues, and Usage, as becometh, and when the real Cause of Complaints is wholly taken away, if they then desert, or prove otherways mutinous or troublesome, they ought undoubtedly to suffer with the utmost Severity and Rigour of the Law.

But these very Articles against Mutiny and Desertion (by which Officers take Advantages of Soldiers) include both Officers and
Soldiers,

Soldiers, without Exceptions of Persons, or Posts of Honour; therefore I see no Reason why any Officers conspiring against the Laws and Honours of their King and Country, and oppressing the poor helpless Soldiers, are not also liable to be try'd as Mutineers; for provided they were all kept true and honest in their Duties, and their Cruelties laid aside, I am partly sure, that there would not then be one Part in ten of Deserters, as have been for some Years past; but I take their present Practices to be much in the Method of the Chain of Exercise; for as a Man can't misplace one Motion, without spoiling the Beauty of the whole, neither can a private Man seek for Justice against one offending Officer, without Danger of incurring the Displeasure of a great many more, which is vulgarly call'd Kicking against the Pricks.

I have heard of Princes, whose Persons, Crowns, and Dignities have even been in Danger, by the avaricious incroaching Dispositions of some great Officers in Trust: Pray God preserve our Royal Master from all such Dangers; for most certain *Great-Britain* never had, nor ever must expect a more just and gracious Sovereign, than he who now sways the Scepter of this Kingdom; neither do I think that any Soldier could ever truly boast of so good a Benefactor, were his Majesty's most gracious Will and extensive Goodness duly executed by all Officers

put in Trust and Authority over them ; yet notwithstanding, it plainly appears, that (by some false Insinuations) they have endeavoured to lessen his Majesty's good Opinion of his most faithful Soldiers ; I mean such as undertake to discover the Frauds of the Army by petitioning to the sacred Persons of the Royal Family, which certainly no Man in his Senses would attempt, except he knew every Word intirely true ; and doubtless his Majesty, on such Occasions, orders Justice to be done ; but their Adversaries (either by Briberies, or other unjustifiable Liberties) take particular Care that the poor Petitioners seldom or never receive Justice.

I could very justly say a great deal in Behalf of the Petitioners in such material Consequences, had I not been one of the Number ; but as Self-praise is the worst of Commendations, I shall defer proceeding, and only give one Instance, wherein they ought to be blamed ; and in that Case, if they should prove guilty, I take such Turn-coats to be full as bad, according to their Power, as the worst Officers in the Army. But I suppose there are scarce any that think themselves the worst, or if they do, the Dread of publick Disgrace will doubtless prevent their Vindication ; therefore I am not in the least apprehensive of being call'd to an Account for making that Comparifon.

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What I have to say, upon this Occasion, relates to a Man, who, as I have heard, petition'd to his Majesty about nine Years ago, and had the Happiness to obtain his most gracious Orders for Trial, which lasted two or three Days, and, by Report, went very hard against the Officers, for which Reason they avoided a Conclusion: It hath also been frequently reported, that his Majesty was pleas'd to order a second Hearing, and told the Officers, that he intended to be present himself in Person, which Orders, by Report, so terrified the guilty Officers, that they set the Man at Liberty, and gave him a large Bribe never to appear more against them; if that were really the Case, I think the Man proved a most notorious Villain, and consequently the most unworthy of Royal Favours. Others said, that they kept him close Prisoner in the *Savoy*, without Pen, Ink, or Paper, and told his Majesty, that he had broke Prison and deserted (which seems most likely;) and by tiring the Man out, perhaps three or four Months in the *Savoy* Dungeon, loaded with Irons; he might think, that his Majesty had forgot him, and in that Case I think no Man can justly blame him for accepting of Liberty, and a small Support to carry him home, out of the *Bruin's* Clutches.

But his Majesty doubtless had great Reason to believe, that the Officers had Hearts,

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not only to commit several unjustifiable Actions, but also to persist in them against any one private Man, how much soever in the Right, which probably may be the Master-piece of some Officers Courage; and perhaps all the Occasion, that ever they may have for it. In short, some extend their Prerogative to such a Degree of Tyranny and Oppression, by which they have render'd the Army so despicable, that the very Name of a Soldier seems hateful to Mankind; inso-much that the King's Cloth is almost become the Scorn and Ridicule of all Ranks and Degrees of Persons, even from a Nobleman to the meanest Peasant; therefore Soldiers of the best Behaviour and Manners are frequently despis'd and degraded for no other Reason but wearing a Red Coat; which scandalous Reflections chiefly proceed from the Illegality of some inhuman or avaricious Officers to gain some private Ends.

If any Differences arise betwixt the Soldiers and the Town's People, they frequently upbraid the Soldiers with the large Taxes rais'd, and their helping to keep them, which is a very injurious Aspersions to be cast upon any Man that works for his Bread; and the small Number of Men, that do the whole Duty, especially in the Guards, get their Livelihood very hardly, and are doubtless deserving of a much better Subsistence than what they enjoy at present; and the Fagots
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are oblig'd to throw up their Pay, which only the Officers reap the Benefit of: so all these exorbitant Taxes, as they term them, go to maintain the Grandeur and Extravagancies of Officers, who wrong and oppress both his Majesty's Subjects and Soldiers, for whom the Money was collected.

I suppose, those very People, who murmur at the Taxes, can't think themselves safe, nor any thing else they call their own, without sufficient Forces; for notwithstanding we have no Call for present Action, yet that is no Fault of the Army; I mean the Soldiers are not to blame; for as a late noble and famed General was pleas'd to observe, when ask'd by his Sovereign, the Reason of his Regiment's Ill-behaviour, and running away from the Enemy at *Sheriefmoor*, I heard that his Lordship was pleas'd to make Answer, that he, being at *Preston* at the same time, did not know what Reason the Officers, who commanded the Regiment at that Engagement, might have for it; but was very certain, that his Dragoons would fight, and even attack double or triple Numbers of Forces, if they had been led on, which he knew from Experience, by their Actions in former Engagements.

In short, the Courage and Bravery of *British* Soldiers is so universally known, that their very Names (altho' but few in Number in Comparison to other Nations) even strikes

strikes a Terror into all incroaching and insulting Enemies, from whom we must consequently lie under continual Apprehension of Invasions, provided a sufficient Army were not kept in Pay ; therefore I have great Reason to believe, both by these and several other Instances, that his Majesty's loyal Subjects chief Grievances, are not owing to the small Subsistence allow'd to the poor Soldiers (who are ready to sacrifice their Lives in Vindication of their Prince, and the Rights and Privileges of *Great-Britain*) but rather, that they are not better subsisted, and a better Army kept out of the immense Sums of Money collected for that Purpose.

I think it a shocking Reflection to such as seriously consider how many brave Gentlemen entertain Year after Year in the Army, whose natural Genius, and noble Dispositions, seem rightly adapted to a thorough Discharge of such high important Trusts, who in all Probability (provided the Army were purg'd of all unjust imposing Cowards, and a true Discipline observ'd) might in Process of Time, by good Examples, be a great Means of restoring the almost lost Honour of *England*, that its Prince might once again challenge the whole Universe, with bold Heroes, and renown'd Warriors, which can never be expected as they are now tutor'd ; for the most promising Gentleman, at his first Entrance, if he even

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abounded in just and honourable Actions, yet in two or three Years Time there are such Alterations to be discover'd in his Temper and Behaviour to the Soldiers, that in all Probability he commences one of the greatest Turncoats and Tricksters in the Army.

I have often observ'd, that the most vicious Soldiers in Troops or Companies frequently keep Company together, and seldom fail of using all possible Means to bring young Recruits into their Measures; and if they prove agreeable to those Reprobates Tempers, they are sure to be vindicated to the last; for I take them to be the truest Men in the Army to each other; but whoever flies from them afterwards is sure to be hated, and to receive a private Injury, if ever it lies in their Power to effect it: Just so I take it to be with the most perfidious and abrogate Officers, who are very rarely seen apart when Opportunity serves; but it must be allow'd, that they have more Advantages and Allurements of evil Temptations, to draw the young Officers (who love Money) into their Measures, than those Soldiers aforementioned have to insnare the Recruits; for it often lies in the Way of a Superior Officer to prefer a Favourite of an inferior Rank, which is doubtless a great Seducement for him to condescend to his Measures; besides, he can instruct him how to get equal Sums of Money by all those Frauds, that are so much
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in his own Practice; and whoever are desirous of knowing the Character of such a Gentleman, after three or four Years Service, and his Behaviour in the Army, may be inform'd by the Soldiers (who are generally the best Judges in such Cases, and speak their Minds most impartially) that he was once extremely good; that his just and honourable Actions at the first procured him the Esteem and Respect of all, but now the Scene is too visibly chang'd; or (in the Soldiers Phrase) that he may now go and be d----d, for some morose Officers have made him as bad as themselves; and indeed it is a general Maxim amongst their penurious Companions, to poison their purer Principles, and industriously instruct them in their own Morals; therefore it is next to an Impossibility, for honourable young Gentlemen (who would otherwise be satisfied with their own Property) to live in the Army, without great Danger of being seduc'd.

But when I said, if the Army was purg'd of all Cowards, I did not mean only those that were naturally so, but likewise those, whose Behaviour and Cruelty are such, that they dare not venture themselves at the Head of their own Troops or Companies, but are sure to be on one Side, or behind the Platoons, when firing; notwithstanding the Soldiers Pouches and Cartridge Boxes had been strictly search'd to prevent their carrying
Balls;

Balls ; I think, most People will allow, that Men of true Courage and Conduct are generally the most just and merciful ; and on the contrary, the unmanly Coward always proves the most savage, cruel and barbarous, when he has an Advantage. I have often observ'd Soldiers wish to be in Battle with some certain Officers, and they would make sure of their nearest and most dangerous Enemies first ; yet I have heard a great many Gentlemen in the Army discours'd of amongst Soldiers, whom even the vilest Reprobate durst not presume to speak a reproachful or disrespectful Word against : So much Influence have Gentlemen of Honour over the most vile and hardened Wretches.

I think there is no Profession in the Universe deserving Honour so much as Officers of true Courage and Conduct, who are faithful and just in all their Dealings, and discharge their full Duty to their Sovereign Lord and King. I own that I have a Value for such Commanders, equal to my own Life, being well assured, that such Officers can never have any Occasion to take the Balls out of the Soldiers Cartridge Boxes, or to stand behind the Platoons, when firing, for Fear of being shot ; I dare answer with my Life, that no Soldiers will ever charge with Balls to level at them.

But I would only answer, upon this Condition, that they take Care to avoid ill Company,

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Company, otherwise they may chance to suffer undesignedly, like the poor Jackdaw, who had the Misfortune to get his Leg broke, only for being in Company, when a Musket was fired at the Crows; therefore not only the Daws, but also the innocent Doves, being in Company, are liable to the Fortune of War, even in Time of Peace, so long as there are such Numbers of overgrown pernicious Crows and Rooks in the Army to shoot at; but as one of these Rooks hath lately flown, there is Room to hope, that the rest will follow as soon as they are well feather'd; but till then, perhaps, it might not be amiss, if a Bill were laid before the Parliament, in order to continue the horn and wooden Flints in all the Soldiers Firelocks, according to the Example of that old cunning Rook; and when the rest of the Rooks are all Pen-feather'd, as well as he was, when he took flight, it will only be the Trouble of pulling out the Pieces of Horn and Wood, and putting real Flints into the Soldiers Firelocks, and all the well-fledged Rooks, in all Probability, will fly like Wild Geese from the Smell of Powder.

The aforefaid Method seems to be pretty sure, but a very costly and tedious Way of banishing these Rooks and Crows; but if an honourable War should chance to happen, which is generally the very Life and Heart of good Soldiers, but the Bane and Antidote

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to Knaves and Cowards, who usurp the Name of Soldiers in Time of Peace; I say the shocking Declaration of an imminent War, and the tormenting Thoughts of a hard, dangerous Campaign, would make most of these Crows and Rooks (who prey upon the Publick, and oppress the poor Soldiers) venture to fly before they are half fledg'd; and even the young ones, that are only hatching, as soon as they get their Heads and Legs at Liberty, will be apt to run, like Lapwings or Twetts, with Shells on their Tails. This Method, when put in Practice, will certainly discover the towering Eagles from the Cuckooes, Kites, and Buzzards; likewise the Doves and Daws, from Rooks and Crows.

The Laws of this Realm are doubtless very good, if put in Practice; but as the Poor have generally the most Enemies, and consequently the fewest Friends, the Rich in all Probability will gain their Ends, how unjust soever, even before the most just and impartial Judges; therefore, of all Men living, I think the poor oppressed Soldiers stand the worst Chance for Justice; for notwithstanding they are liable to two Laws, it is not in their Power to command any; for Soldiers, that receive the most gross Wrongs and Impositions, can't bring the Aggressors to the Civil Law for want of Money; and it very rarely happens, that the Military Law does
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them Justice, especially when their Officers are their Adversaries; for it plainly appears, that some would rather murder twenty Men (provided they can conveniently conceal the Murders) than do one Man Justice, who opposes their Interests; and if their Murders accidentally are discover'd, the Law seldom reaches them, for some of their Brother Officers doubtless think themselves oblig'd, for their own Safety, to vindicate the Offender's Cause, lest the next Turn should chance to be their own.

I think there is a Doctor of Physick allow'd to each Regiment of Foot and Dragoons, as well as in any other Corps; but I scarce ever heard of any Soldier's receiving the least Benefit from their Regimental Physicians: most of them, I think, had rather attend twenty other Patients, than one Soldier, and some perhaps don't see the Regiment they belong to for Years together. The whole fourteen Months that I was in the Dragoons, I think the Doctor never came near the Regiment, but the Officers employ'd any Apothecaries that would serve them cheapest, without consulting how well or ill the Dragoons were serv'd; provided they had but the Name of a Doctor or Apothecary when they were sick. There was one Doctor and Apothecary turn'd off when I was in the Regiment, for no other Reason, by Report, but serving the Men with too good Drugs,

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or at least such Drugs as he could not afford at their Price.

They scrupled to pay his Bill, thinking to frighten him (I suppose) as they do their Soldiers; but he told them, that he would stand by his Bill, by reason that he had furnish'd the Dragoons with the very same Sort of Drugs as he did his other Patients; and never kept ordinary Ingredients on purpose to serve the Army, as he had a great deal of Reason to believe some others did, who serv'd them at under Prices; and doubtless that Gentleman hath so much Honour, as to testify the same upon Occasion. I heard, that they thought proper to pay his Bill, but never imploy'd him more, so long as I staid in the Troop, neither did he seem to want their Custom; nor do I think there are any imploy'd by Officers that care to give proper Attendance, except the sick Soldiers pay them out of their own Pockets; which plainly shews, that the Officers bind them down to such small Prices for Drugs and Attendance, that they had rather want their Custom than have it.

I have known Men kept several Months in Prisons, and wet Dungeons, till they were wasted with Sickness, occasioned by Hunger and Hardships, upon the small Allowance of three or four Pence a Day, by which it appears, that some Officers rather choose to starve them with Hunger,

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for the Lucre of Gain, than to suffer the Doctors to give them any thing for the Recovery of their Healths ; but in the mean time this is only making Deductions in Regiments out of the poor Soldiers Pay, for what they are often the worse, but seldom or never the better for ; therefore I think such as are guilty of keeping Men in wet Dungeons, and infectious Prisons, without the Aid of a Doctor, or even a necessary Supply of Bread, till they perish by Inches, and die, like Dogs in Ditches, are of all Men the most barbarous and inhuman Murderers.

Doubtless, there ought to be a due Reverence paid to all Superiors, so long as they behave accordingly ; but it is my real Opinion, that they forfeit their Superiority, or at least the Regard, which once might be due to it, by their first Negligence and Disobedience, or otherways betraying their Trusts : I would make it appear, that I could take a great deal more Pleasure in writing Panegyrick rather than Satire, on Gentlemen belonging to the Army, provided I had but half the Precedents for it ; yet I shall venture to say something relating to a late brave and honourable General, who, I heard, had so much Generosity and Compassion for one of his Officers (that had great Losses by the *South-Sea*) as to help him to recover his Losses, by giving him
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the Cloathing of his Regiment: but that Officer not being content with a moderate Gain, as the General was pleas'd to observe, he might have got and cloath'd the Regiment in a more decent Manner; but instead of that, I heard, he accouter'd it in a very shabby, ridiculous Manner; therefore the General, doubtless being, very justly, incens'd against him for abusing his generous Intentions, told him that he would never intrust him more with the Cloathing his Regiment; therefore the General order'd it immediately to be cloath'd over again, in a much compleater Manner out of his own private Purse; which was even a surprizing Precedent to be acted in this covetous Age, notwithstanding I really believe it to be true, by what I have heard concerning his Lordship's Fame in all brave and generous Actions.

I heard of another Precedent not altogether foreign to his Lordship's; that a certain Nobleman, when first presented to a Regiment of Horse, which he found very much out of Repair; out of his own Honour and Generosity, disburs'd a large Sum of Money, for Cloathing, and such other Necessaries as were requisite; and I was told by his own Domesticks, that his Grace was pleas'd to wear a Coat of the same Sort of Cloth, of which he had cloath'd the whole Regiment. I don't mean, that it was altogether re-

quisite to cloath his Regiment the same as he did himself, but think it shew'd the Spirit of a Nobleman and a true-bred Gentleman, and Soldier. I do sincerely believe, that there are, at this Time, several Officers, who came from the Plow-tail into the Army, that would scarce be seen to wear a great Coat on a rainy Day, made of the same Sort of Cloth that their Regiments are cloathed with : The Fame and Renown of these two brave Generals is so universally known, that, I fancy it is needless to mention any Names, or give any farther Descriptions, as they have signalized themselves in a peculiar Manner, by several brave glorious Actions, in Defence of their Sovereign and their Country.

I have other noble Precedents relating to some of the most honourable Gentlemen in the Army, which I design for the second Part of this Book ; so return at present (like a Madman that knows no Medium) to the shocking Instance of that truculent Person, who was suspected of other Barbarities, besides that which occasioned his Flight ; but I think they do wrong to accuse him with spoiling his Brother Officers, and teaching them Cruelties, who seem to take them too naturally of themselves ; for those, that do not take Delight in Learning, seldom make so quick a Progress, as some that were said to be under his Tuition. I have observed,

served, that most of the Cruelties and cowardly Practices acted in the Regiment, for some Time, were laid to his Charge, as if they were acted by his Orders; but suppose any Officers should be detected and brought to Justice, for obeying any unlawful Commands, which, doubtless, is as great a Crime as disobeying lawful Orders (for all Officers either are or ought to be at Age of Discretion to govern themselves, and to judge betwixt Right and Wrong, *i. e.* betwixt lawful and unlawful Orders, before they take the Command of any Part of his Majesty's Forces upon them, it being a most important Charge, and consequently very improper for greenhorn'd giddy Boys, or any other Persons that do not give themselves the Trouble to study it.) Therefore, I say, set the Case, that an Officer was ordered out of Camp at the Head of a Party, to suppress any Troops of the Enemy that might be marching against them, I would gladly know which is the greatest Crime, if the Party disobeys their commanding Officer when he orders them to attack those Rebels, or to obey, if he should prove such a Villain as to order them to join the Enemy, they are both bad; but of the two, I think to obey him is the worst; for, in disobeying him, they might think their Party too weak for the Enemy, or at great Disadvantages, by the Inadvertency of the commanding Officer; and several other

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Reasons might be given for it (although but weak Excuses ;) but to obey his Orders in joining the Enemy would shew the rest of the Officers, under his Command, to be dull, stupid, and positive Devotees, that did not know their Duty, or rather downright Rebels and Traitors.

Therefore, provided he was a commanding Officer, that first ordered Pieces of Horn and Wood to be cut in the Shape of Flints, and put in the Soldiers Fire-Locks, the rest of the Officers, who doubtless were acquainted with it, ought to suppress all such cowardly Practices, since they knew them to be entirely against the Law of Arms, and Honour of Soldiers ; for those that do not use their Endeavours to prevent any bad Practices, by Consequence, consent to them ; and, in my Opinion, are equally guilty. If it is true, as I have heard, that they even suffered the Centinals to mount the King's Guard with wooden Flints, which, if rightly considered, looks of such a suspicious Nature, that, in Case of any civil Broils, it might have been attended with very bad Consequences ; and even at the best, it is certainly a great Dishonour to the Army, and a monstrous Disrespect and Irreverence in the Royal Presence : They may think it a great Happiness, that they are blessed with such a favourable and forgiving Prince ; otherways, had the Rigor of the Laws been put in Force,

Force, they probably might have had no more Commissions by this time, than he deserves that was said to be the first Inventer of such Practices.

I cannot apprehend how a judicious People, in all other Respects, can imagine a Man to be a thorough disciplin'd Soldier, and yet, at the same time, allow him to be excessively addicted to Temerity, and even of a truculent Disposition, especially such as bears a Prerogative, which Office requires a Man to be endued with the most sedate and punctual OEconomy ; likewise several other extraordinary Qualifications to render him a complete Soldier in that Station : Whereas the Art of exercising of Corps or Regiments is more an Orniament (as I take it) than of any real Service to their Performance in Time of Action ; for whoever lives to see an Engagement will, doubtless, find more unnecessary Motions in the present Exercise, than useless Men in the Army : I own that a complete graceful Method of Exercising is very necessary to be known by all military Men : and, as it is approved of by regal Power, it is more particularly to be observed : But, nevertheless, his present Majesty (who hath had Experience in Camps as well as in Courts) would, doubtless, be as well pleased to see his Forces instruct themselves sometimes in the other necessary Arts and Branches of military Discipline.

Indeed, if any formal officious Officers had the Eloquence to prevail with the Enemy upon the Point of an Engagement, to wait for the Word One-two, betwixt every Motion, that Branch of ceremonial Exercise might be more requisite, provided they were equally skilled in all other military Sciences : But, as that is most unlikely (I mean, to meet with so tame an Enemy) therefore a more sagacious Method will, doubtless, be required ; for, to deserve the Name of a complete, thorough-disciplin'd Soldier, a Man ought to be endued with more extraordinary Qualifications than those of crying, Silence, you Dogs, toe the Line, you Puppies ; Corporals, take such and such Rascals to the Black-hole, or *Savoy*, see that they are double iron'd, let them have nothing but Bread and Water ; then to chuck Men under the Chin to make them hold up their Heads, and to kick them over their Shins, and tread upon their Toes if they have never a Cane to break their Heads : D — n them clumsy, Bow-legg'd, Bull-headed Fellows, see how they stand, Serjeants, dress the Ranks, or knock the Villains down, be sure to chalk all that miss any Motions ; see that they go to Prison for such a Time, and to the Drilling Masters for a Month, &c.

When they have domineer'd over the poor Soldiers in that Manner, for about an Hour and an half, then the Word of Command

mand is given, *i. e.* Have a Care, Make ready, Present, Fire, &c. which, I think, is our late wooden-flint Warrior's Master-piece, for I never heard that he had acquired the Character of a complete Soldier abroad, or distinguished himself in any valuable Achievements at home ; for the exercising and preparing a Regiment for a *Hyde-park* Show is what any ingenious School-boy (provided he had a Command) might be capable of performing, with as much Dexterity, after three or four Months Instructions. In short, I take these home-bred Hectors to be no farther learned in the Art of War, than their *A, B, C,* in true military Discipline ; and believe there are scarce any experienced Veterans that account them otherways : For, to be a complete Warrior, a Man ought to be endued with exemplary Conduct, *i. e.* to understand how to lead his Command or Party against an Enemy, and suit the Time and Place for engaging, and posting his Party to the best Advantage ; and to retreat, if Occasion requires, with the least Loss of Men ; also to be thoroughly acquainted with all the various Incidents that may accrue in an Enemy's Country : But, above all, he ought to be a Pattern of true Courage and Integrity, which is certainly the greatest Inducement to all heroic Actions.

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I suppose there are proper Allowances from the Government to provide sound able Horses for all Horse-men ; likewise sufficient Arms and Accoutrements for all Horse and Foot Soldiers in his Majesty's Service ; but instead of that, they force the Recruits to take old broken rusty Arms, that are, perhaps, fit for no manner of Service ; and sometime afterwards, one sharpening Officer or other will pretend to review their Arms and Accoutrements, who finding, according to Expectation, every thing out of Repair, orders them to be taken directly to the Gun-smiths, and the Expence of repairing them to be stopp'd out of the Soldier's Pay : some Men have been charg'd three, four, or five Shillings, or perhaps three Half-Crowns, according to the Workmanship ; and whoever scruple allowing of such Stoppages are sent to the Black-Hole or *Savoy*, as troublesome mutinous Fellows ; and if they don't condescend to that Officer's unreasonable Demands, before they are brought to a Court-Martial, they may be sure of severe Punishment, and forced to pay for mending the King's Arms at last ; but that is done with an Intent, as I take it, to save the Government's Allowances in their own Pockets, which ought not in Justice to be done ; for doubtless all Officers Pay is sufficient for them to live upon like Gentlemen, according to their Commissions ; and those, that have not

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Conduct to manage that in Time of Peace and Plenty, cannot reasonably be expected to have Conduct to command any Part of an Army in the Field.

But as for those that think themselves deserving of better Pay, why don't they address his Majesty to have it augmented, whose gracious and unlimited Goodness will doubtless grant his Officers any reasonable Requests: Besides, they have all Friends and Backers in the Parliament-House, to bring in any Bills of their Merits which they think are unrewarded; and if they have any just Claim or Title, they will doubtless carry it by Majority of Votes; but if not, they will certainly find a great many Gentlemen of real Honour to oppose any unreasonable Bills; and in that Case they must beware, who pays the Gunsmiths for furbishing and repairing of old broken useless Arms: But to end all Disputes about paying the Gunsmiths, perhaps the readiest Way would be to petition for an Order to send all the old Arms, and Rubbish, that are grown useless, into the Stores, and provide Wooden Swords and Firelocks, as well as Wooden Flints; for I am inform'd that there are some Wooden Officers, as well as Soldiers, in most Parts of his Majesty's Dominions, and if ever they should chance to join, it would doubtless be a most agreeable Sight to see the Army all of a Piece.

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The first Rise of the Fagots, by Report, was the Artifice of some designing Officers, having more regard for their own Interests than the Honour of the Army; who, under Pretence of keeping two or three unfortunate Fellows out of Jail, got a Grant to entertain, or more properly speaking, to swear them in their Corps or Regiments, for they had but very poor Entertainment in the Army, when they were oblig'd to throw up their Pay, and scuffle for their Bread; but when the Officers obtain'd that Grant, they pretended, as it is said, that it would be an Act of Charity to let them throw up their Pay and follow their Busineses, whereby they might get Money to satisfy their impatient Creditors, and promis'd, that they should be always ready at hand, at an Hour's Warning, in Case of any Danger, and by such plausible Pretences, as 'tis reported, they first introduc'd their Fagots; but this was only their begging an Inch, and taking an Ell; for, now they have got the greatest Part of their Companies upon that Footing, I think they can't conveniently join their respective Regiments in two or three Weeks, or a Month, much less at an Hour's Warning.

In short, the pretended Perquisites (which I don't see that any Military Officers, in strict Justice, are intitled to) are the Root of all evil Branches, that shade and eclipse the Honour and Lustre of the whole Army,
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and the only Way, to bring it to its former State, will be to stop the Fountain-Head, from whence these Sluices spring; for, to prevent a bad Weed from shaking and scattering its Seed, it must be often cropp'd, or pull'd up by the Root before it is full ripe; for it is an old Proverb, *That ill Weeds grow apace, and fair Gamsters always play above board.*

I have stood the Test of the utmost Calamities, for opposing some certain enormous Officers in their Illegalities, whose Contumelies would, questionless, have terrified most People from any further Attempts of this Nature; having often been told by the timorous, in a friendly Admonition, that the Power of Riches generally prevails over Honesty in Distress, and that I was too venturesome to rely upon Justice, which is almost become a Bankrupt; but more particularly, as I had so much Experience, seeing how natural it was even for a Child, that had burnt its Hand, to dread the Fire. But I am apt to think, that such despondent Notions of Justice, when at the Age of Maturity, proceed either from Treachery or Cowardice, and doubtless the very Thoughts of being accounted such would make any Man of true Courage persist in his former Resolutions; for my own part, I would embrace Death in the most terrible Shape, rather

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ther than become a Tool or Instrument for any penurious Usurpers to play upon.

Therefore, as I know my Adversaries guilty of voluntary Abrogations (which are consequently detrimental to the Government) I don't only flatter, but also assure myself of having both my King and Country on my Side; and even their Brother Officers, that play above board, I am of Opinion, will scarce be seen to draw a Sword in their Defence, if ever they come to Trial; for I do really believe, that there are several Noblemen and Gentlemen of the same Profession, I mean Officers in the Army, who, tho' they don't care to bring their Names in Question against such a large Number of their Brother Officers, yet have natural Aversions to their Practices, and would be glad to see them prevented by any other Hands.

There is scarce any one Branch or Article, where there is any Money stirring, but some Officers will have Part of it, besides their own Pay, under Pretence of some Perquisite or other; therefore the surest Way to lop all these spreading Branches, that shade the Lustre and Glory of the Army, is to strike at the Root of the Perquisites, it being but one old Stock wherein so many different Kinds of bad Slips are grafted, that have produc'd such various Sorts of bitter Fruits; and if the Government pleases to have it rooted, they probably may

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save as much Money, by the first Branch that falls, as will try the Depth of the Root by a good Rule and fair Examination at *Westminster-Hall*.

By all Appearances his Majesty might raise a Hundred and fifty thousand Men upon an urgent Occasion, before the Officers could bring all the three Regiments of Guards to their Duty, and consequently might be disciplin'd, and thoroughly instructed in the Art of War, at least as soon as several of these mustering Fagots, who are generally most skill'd in Plowing, Threshing, Hedging, Ditching, or worse Employments, for a small Support, whilst their Officers provide themselves Coaches and Equipages with these poor miserable Wretches Pay; therefore my Advice, were I ask'd the Question, would be not to admit of any Fagots being continued, for the Sake of any Deductions that may be made by the Government; provided there should seem to be the least Appearances of Dangers, and Occasion for Soldiers; by reason that several Fagots will be as far to seek, as I take it, in Time of real Danger, as if they never had been list'd; and perhaps much farther; for as the Watermen, who, next to Seamen, are the fittest for that Service, upon the first Notice of Impress Warrants being issued out, immediately quit their Oars, and disappear in an Instant; so there are generally great
Numbers

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Numbers of Men impressed for the Sea Service, who know nothing of what belongs to the Duty of a Sailor, before they can find Half of those Fellows who got their Bread upon the Water, and ought to be the first upon Command.

This I take to be the real Case with the Fagots, who understand perhaps a little (altho' but a very little) Discipline; and knowing themselves liable to be impressed and forced abroad, as being first upon Command, in all Probability, upon the first Appearances of a Campaign, will take care to be farthest out of the Way. I own that the Incouragers of Fagots may argue, that they are lifted, and the Watermen are not; but suppose they are, there is but an Oath Difference, and that's a Trifle to those that don't regard it; but will perhaps swear twenty more for Twelve-pence, and trust twelve Months for the Money.

I was told by a Shop-keeping Fagot, that he intended to continue so till twenty Years were expir'd, that he might be intitled to *Chelsea*, for his Officers gave him no Trouble, but at the Reviews and Musters, and two or three Field Days, which was very little Hinderance to his Business: besides, he was not liable to be arrested for every little trifling Debt, and he had a Suit of Cloaths every Year, which was little the worse for Wear at the Year's End, which he could
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make fifteen or twenty Shillings of, and had the Opportunity of making the best of his Billet, and three or four Shillings a Month, which is a common Price to Fagots, was a great Help towards House Rent; therefore whoever is pleas'd to consider must allow, that all these fair Advantages put together are great Encouragements for Fagots, and doubtless Four Shillings, or Four Shillings and Six-pence a Week from each Fagot, are great Encouragements for their Officers.

As to Soldiers getting the Benefit of *Chelſea*, I think, it depends chiefly upon Recommendations from their Officers. It hath been a general Observation, that these Fagots (who perhaps had not done a Month's Duty during the Twenty Years they belong'd to the Army) have been admitted to the Benefit, when a true and faithful Soldier, who had gone upon all lawful Commands, for perhaps a Series of thirty or forty Years, hath at last been represented to the Board (by his Officers, who had not an Opportunity of pocketing his Pay) as a drunken, troublesome, vexatious Fellow, and so disappointed. I knew an old Campaigner come to *London*, in order to petition to the Board; but upon requesting the Favour of his Officers to appear for him, he was taken up as a Defenter, and kept in the *Savoy* till the Board was over, and then releas'd, which

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the poor Veteran said was done on Purpose to prevent him obtaining his Right; as indeed it look'd most likely, according to a great many People's Opinions; altho' his grey Hairs and long Service shew'd, that he had a very just Title to be admitted. I have heard of several Men being discharged without the Benefit, who, by Report, had done the constant Duties of Soldiers for eighteen or nineteen Years successively, but never heard of a Fagot serv'd after such a Manner. Provided the honourable Board did but know how they have been impos'd upon in such Cases, I fancy they would find out other Methods of knowing Men's Merits, than to depend intirely upon the Report of some partial Officers.

But however, as the present Situation of Affairs seems to be in profound Peace and Tranquillity (which I heartily wish long to continue, provided it be for the Good and Honour of my King and Country) and as the Officers still persist in keeping such prodigious Numbers of Fagots, contrary to all Law and Reason, the authorizing and continuing them by Act of Parliament would not only be saving the Government 40704*l.* *per Ann.* but also a great Piece of Justice and Encouragement for the Duty-men, and likewise keep the Army in a much better Posture of Defence, that, in Case of any
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real Danger happening, an Augmentation might be made accordingly ; for depending upon the Fagots (make the best of them) is only leaning upon a broken Staff; but if they must unavoidably remain as Fagots, they will doubtless be equally serviceable to the Army in Time of War ; provided they were continued by Order of Government.

Now, according to my Proposals, I shall proceed to what I think relates to the Government's Interest ; and first to give an Account of the Soldiers in his Majesty's three Regiments of Foot Guards, containing Sixty-four Companies.

The full Complement, I think, ought to be Sixty in each Company ; altho' I am very certain, that several Officers are not able to prove twenty constant Duty-men in their Companies the Year round. I have been five or six Days in one Week upon the *Tower* Duty, when other Men or Fagots (who had an undoubted Right to equal Allowances from his Majesty) were flaving and wearing out their Youth and Service in the Country, either at some laborious Business, impoverishing their poor Friends, or otherways robbing the Country People for Support, which brings the greatest Scandal and Disgrace upon the whole Soldiery. Some obtain Leave to go Sixty or a Hundred, and

I am informed, others go two or three Hundred Miles from their respective Regiments; and what Time they may take to return, I leave the World to judge: but if, in Case of the greatest Emergency, Orders should be given for but Half Companies to march, at a Week or ten Day's Notice, 'tis very much to be questioned, whether some Officers would be able to get Half their Companies in Readiness, and much less in two or three Days, which Warning no Military Officers can always promise themselves; nor ought they to depend upon it, but to be always in Readiness, otherwise they must certainly be guilty of the highest Breach of Trust, both to their King and Country.

But in case they should, with Difficulty, produce Half Companies in Order to march at such Warning, then the King and Crown must be left almost, if not intirely, without a Guard, till such Times as the Ditchers, Threshers, and Plow-drivers return from their several Occupations, perchance to repair their broken, canker'd Swords and Bayonets, if not lost, or eat thro' with Rust for Want of Use, so as never to be mended again.

I heard a private Centinel say, that he was impos'd upon in the *Tower*, being ordered to mount the main Guard before his Turn, he having only been two Days off
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that Duty ; but a young Non-Commission Officer very sharply reply'd, that it was his proper Turn, and said, or swore, that there were no more than fifteen Duty-men in the Company, and it must be done by somebody. Not as I think that any Man can be too diligent to serve his King and Country, but am very certain of a great many that are excessively negligent, and think it equally reasonable for all Men in the same Corps and Pay, to take the same Tour of Duty ; and can see no Reason, why any Man, having but four Shillings a Week Subsistence, should be compell'd to answer for two Men's Duty besides his own, and the Officers at the same Time receiving all the Fagots Pay, without distributing any Part of it amongst the poor Duty-men, who seldom or never receive any Recompence for their extraordinary Trouble, but are partly sure of severe Punishment upon the least Refusal.

The Number of Fagots is increas'd to such a prodigious Degree, that several Companies do not contain a sufficient Guard of Duty-men, but are oblig'd to hire sometimes six, seven, or eight Men in a Company, out of other Battallions, to mount the King's Guard, by reason that they can hire Soldiers for Eighteen Pence a Guard, or less, in the Room of Fagots, and stop Four Shillings,

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lings, or Four Shillings and Six-pence a Week from every Fagot sworn into their Companies; if the latter (which appears to be the Case) those Six-pences stopp'd from the Duty-men pay the Hirelings to compleat the Fagots Guards, *i. e.* when the small Number of Duty-men's mounting three Days instead of one is not sufficient.

And as each Company contain'd only fifteen or sixteen, or from those Numbers to twenty-four Duty-men (which I think few Companies in the *Tower* exceeded, from the Beginning of the Disturbance in *Spittle-fields*, in *June* or *July*, to the 25th of *October*, after the *Gin Act* took Force) so if the Mob had prov'd as tumultuous at *Michaelmas*, as a great many People fear'd and suspected, they might have forced the whole Guard, and seiz'd upon his Majesty's Crown and Garison, before the Officers could have had Assistance from their Fagots; for suppose the twelve Companies in the *Tower* had contain'd twenty constant Duty-men each, take one Company with another (which is very much to be question'd) what are 240 starving Men, to be intrusted with such an important Charge, against a riotous and rebellious Mob? And as they gave Leave to such Numbers of Fagots to be absent, and kept so few Duty-men in their Companies, in all Appearances of real Danger, it may reasonably

reasonably be suppos'd that the Fagots (if possible) would be more increas'd when the Danger seem'd to be over ; for notwithstanding the Officers, as I heard, had receiv'd such strict Orders, that they could not conveniently excuse themselves, in those troublesome Times, from the *Tower Duty*, yet, for the Lucre of unjust Gain, they ventur'd to excuse the greatest Part of the private Men belonging to their Companies.

And forty Fagots Pay, in each Company throughout the three Regiments of Guards, amounts to 512 *l.* a Week, being equal to 26624 *l.* a Year, which is a considerable Sum of Money for the Officers to imbezzle in one Article out of the poor Soldiers Pay, besides their just Allowances from the Government, according to their several Commissions, which undoubtedly is sufficient without so much Fagot Money, or any other Extortions in what Kind soever ; for any Gentleman of Honour, as (questionless) there are a great many in *Great Britain*, would be very well satisfied to enjoy the lowest Commissions in his Majesty's Service, without impoverishing the poor Soldiers, and consequently would be much more diligent in their Duties, than those Officers, whose Heads are turn'd with great Riches, Pride, ungovern'd Passions, and arbitrary Power, to such a Degree, that a poor oppressed

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Soldier,

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Soldier, who requires Justice, scarce dares presume to approach within their Pikes Length, lest they should dart one through his Scull.

I have heard, that a private Soldier's full Pay, the Cloathing included, in his Majesty's three Regiments of Foot Guards, is Twelve-pence a Day, being equal to 18 *l.* 5 *s.* a Year; if so, as the Soldiers receive but Four Shillings a Week at the most, there remains 7 *l.* 16 *s.* a Year, for the Cloathing of each Soldier; who, being in Presence of the Court, receive new Coats every Year, which is the main Article, and those are taken from them at the Year's End, to make their next Year's Waistcoats off. The whole Cloathing that each Man receives yearly, by a moderate Computation, is valued at about Three Pounds, and what becomes of the Four Pounds Sixteen Shillings remaining, I leave my Readers to judge; which throughout the three Regiments of Guards amounts to 18432 *l.* a Year, sunk in that Article, for which, I think, there is no Account given; neither do I propose to save that Money to the Government, but to shew the Necessity of its being more advantageously laid out for the intended Purpose: as it must be allow'd that those large Stoppages make small Cloathings, I mean very coarse, bad, and ordinary Cloathing, which very much impoverishes

poverishes the Duty-men, who are obliged to find their own Necessaries above three quarters of the Year, out of the small Allowance of four Shillings a Week.

Whoever rightly balances the Expences, that all private Duty-men are liable to, will find, that no honest Man (having no other Dependence) can have so much as Twelve-pence a Week Subsistence Money to live upon, *i.e.* when all Necessaries are deducted; for in the first Place, the poor Soldiers seldom have any Money or Credit, so are obliged to apply to the Clerk, or Pay-master of the Company, for Linnen, Shoes, Stockings, &c. who perhaps will overcharge them very near One Shilling out of the Four, for his Trouble, and the Interest of the Government's Money lodg'd in his Hands; so that they are upon continual Stoppages for the buying, making, and mending of Linnen; likewise washing of Shirts, Stocks, Stockings, and Spatterdashies; also buying of Hats, Cockades, Gloves, Shoes, Stockings, Spatterdashies, Stock-Buckles, Shoe-Buckles, Buckle-Garters, Razors, and Wash-balls; Shoe-Brushes, and Black-Balls, Oil and Powder, mending of Cloaths, repairing of Arms, &c. so that his Majesty's Subjects, who are frequently bilk'd by the poor Centinels, can't be greatly surpriz'd, if they rightly consider their Necessities, who have little or nothing to subsist upon

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upon but what they either beg, borrow, or steal ; but if the Four Pounds Sixteen Shillings (now suppos'd to be sunk or extravagantly expended) were all carefully applied to the Use of each Soldier, it would supply them with a great Part of those Necessaries, and enable them to reserve the Four Shillings a Week for their Subsistence.

As for the Dragoons doubtless, all judicious People will allow, that they are impos'd upon to the utmost Degree, for a Recruit no sooner joins the Regiment, than he is charg'd, perhaps, Six Shillings, or upwards, for a Horse-Cloth, Three Shillings for Corn Sacks, Half-a-Crown for a Goat Skin, to lay over his Saddle ; likewise paying for Saddle Strops, Girt, and Surcingle ; and in short, all, or most Part of the Trappings belonging to Horse-Furniture, Arms, and Accoutrements ; even the Curry-Combs and Brushes, Mane-Combs, Spunges, &c. the Dragoons are oblig'd to pay for, besides standing to all future Repairs.

Of all those Impositions abovementioned, I have a natural Aversion to pay for Spunge, for some Officers are such excessive Spungers, that one might reasonably expect all that *gratis* ; those penurious Farming Officers, without doubt, are great Epicures, and in Course must have excellent Stomachs to roast Beef, who can digest more Spunge than
would

would go near to choak most Dogs in a Parish. I think it a very intolerable Usurpation of these Officers, that extort three or four Pounds for finding the King's Accoutrements, &c. besides, perhaps, fifteen or twenty Shillings a Year for Repairs; all out of the Grass Money, and the small Arrears (which is but Two-pence a Day) that is due to the Dragoons. I dare answer, that there is no Act of Parliament or Regulation by regal or legal Authority, to entitle the Officers to make such unjust Stoppages, for they doubtless receive Money from the Government to supply the Dragoons with able Horses, sufficient Arms and Accoutrements; and a Soldier, by his Majesty's Orders, is only to pay for what he wilfully spoils or breaks; therefore I take all other Stoppages to be illegal and unsufferable Impositions.

But for the Guards, as great Deficiency as hath been us'd in the Cloathing of Soldiers, I think there hath been equally as much Superfluity in Cloathing of Fagots, who do little or no Duty, therefore only usurp the Name of Soldiers, for twenty Shillings a Year; each Fagot to buy wooden Shoes, and Plowmen's Frocks, would be much more serviceable and suitable to their Business, than the King's Livery to work in; besides it would be a Satisfaction for People to distinguish Soldiers from Fagots. I own that a great
many

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many Officers (who can't then have the same Opportunities of ingrossing so much of the Publick's Money as at present) may probably object, that the Fagots would desert, having no Regimentals on ; to which I answer, that if they do, it will be no more, than what they do at present ; for they can change their Cloaths in any Part of the Country, which is so much Money lost ; but if they desert, having no Regimentals, the King would lose never a Soldier ; therefore if I am not mistaken a great many of them would be better lost than found : but to remove this Objection intirely, it is only putting a Cockade, or a Regimental Button on their Hats, and giving Orders not to pull it off upon Pain of Death, or condign Punishment, which would answer the End full as well as the whole Cloathing.

But if it should be thought necessary to have them appear, as Soldiers, at the Reviews and Musters, it is but the Trouble of putting their Cloaths in the Stores, as they do their Arms and Accoutrements, when such Musters are over, and they would find that one Cloathing would serve each Fagot, who does no Duty, seven or eight Years, better than seven Cloathings will serve each Soldier, that answers to three Men's Duty.

I think there are, or ought to be, 3840
private Men belonging to the three Regi-
ments

ments of Foot Guards, and as 1280 Soldiers (which are just one Third) is suppos'd to supply all or most of the Duty required from the whole, then there remain 2560 Fagots; and if the Government thinks proper to make a Regulation of their Cloathing, they will find, that 2560 Times seven Pounds sixteen Shillings, is equal to 19968 Pounds a Year, which goes to the Cloathing of Fagots; therefore, a great Part of this Money may as well, or better be sav'd, than applied to the wrong Use, it having been for some Years past, as I take it, a very unnecessary Expence to the Government.

N. B. When I first propos'd to shew wherein the Government might deduct 36864 *l.* a Year out of the three Regiments of Guards, I did not then think that there had been so much as Twelve-pence a Day allow'd for the Pay and Cloathing of each private Centinel; but, provided I am yet mistaken, I don't in the least doubt but this Treatise will still answer my first Proposals; for these two Articles only, concerning the Fagots Pay and Cloathing, amount to 46592 *l.* a Year: and provided that 5888 *l.* a Year were deducted from it, according to my first Proposals, which would make Twelve-pence a Week additional Pay for 1280 Duty-men; and Twenty Shillings a Year for 2560 Fagots in the Room of their
Regimental

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Regimental Cloathing, in case the Legislator approves of it; and if these Deductions are made, there will, notwithstanding, remain 40704 *l.* a Year for the Use of the Government, which is 3840 *l.* a Year more than my first Proposals in that Article.

These propos'd Regulations, if ever put in Force, may probably be more advantageous to the Publick, than the saving of so much Money only; for it will undoubtedly be a great Relief to the poor oppressed Soldiers, and enable them to go thro' their Duties chearfully; and in some Measure may be a great Instigation of making a Change and Reformation amongst some avaritious Officers, and oblige them to be true, honest, and faithful, who perhaps never intended to be so. However, if any should resolve to pursue their former Practices, in breaking thro' the Laws of the Realm for their own private Interests; the *British* Government, who never was known to suffer such gross Actions to pass unexamin'd, will undoubtedly find a Time to bring them to an Account for their Illegalities.

Having given my Readers a Precedent of the Foot Guards Cloathing, I shall now proceed to the Dragoons, who, I am inform'd, are allow'd a full Cloathing by the Government every two Years, and Half Mounting

Mounting in the Interval of Time; but when I first join'd the Regiment I found it in a most ragged, tatter'd Condition, excepting ten Men in a Troop, who had Augmentation Cloaths, which, I suppose, were at the Government's extraordinary Expence; very few of the rest had any Regimental Waistcoats, or Breeches; or if they had, they were almost as full of Holes and Patches as a Leopard's Skin is full of Spots, which indeed was no Wonder, if what the Dragoons said were true, as appear'd most likely, *viz.* That they had received but one Cloathing in Five Years Time, and that not complete, the Hats being hoarded up in Stores, which belong'd to a former Cloathing by another General (as I have often heard) and some of the old Men did not scruple to say, that the Cloaks were fourteen or fifteen Years old, notwithstanding they look'd almost as fresh as if they had but been made so many Months, except being much fretted with the Moths, by being often lock'd up in the Store Rooms; for those Men that were sick, or in Prison, had not the Benefit of their Cloaks, by reason that they were lock'd up above eleven Months out of twelve, to my certain Knowledge, and given out against a Review, and taken in again immediately after; which was excellent Management, and shew'd a great deal of Frugality and

and Faithfulness in the Officers, provided they had charg'd the Government no oftener with new Cloaths and Cloaks than they cloath'd the Dragoons.

As the Regiment was in such bad Repair when I first entertain'd, it must in Course be in a worse Condition before they received their next Cloathing, which was about fourteen Months afterwards: whoever scruples, or any ways mistrusts my Reports, I have a Coat to produce, which has been kept for that Purpose, carefully folded up, ever since I left the Regiment; and would freely make a Present of it, provided I were sure that it would be hung up at the Front of *Westminster-Hall* the next Meeting of Parliament, that the Government might see what they had for their Money.

Were it possible, that they could be content with getting four or five Hundred Pounds, by the Cloathing of each Regiment, they might then indeed have some Room to call a Man a troublesome, litigious Fellow, for inspecting or concerning himself about such Trifles; but where they imbezzle the greatest Part of the Money which is allow'd for the Cloathing of their Regiments, and the Soldiers are drove to the Necessity of begging or buying their own Cloaths to wear in the King's Service, I look upon it then, as a Duty to discover, and endeavour to prevent
such

such extreme Usurpations, therefore consequently far from a Crime to speak of it; for, in my Opinion, no Man can be truly said to have discharg'd his Duty, that knows and conceals any such unlawful Proceedings.

I could give several other Instances, if Occasion requir'd, but humbly presume, that this Assertion, which I am free and ready to prove, at a proper Notice, will sufficiently convince all judicious People of the Fraudulencies practis'd in the Army. These two Precedents only, relating to the Dragoons and Foot Guards (which are undeniable) may in a great Measure enable all Impartial Readers to judge, and even conclude, that my Proposals to save the Government considerably upwards of One hundred thousand Pounds a Year, out of the furnishing of Horse, Arms, Accoutrements, Cloathing, &c. thro'out the Army, were not intirely groundless. What Exceptions and Drawbacks there may be made relating to the other Article, of saving Forty thousand seven hundred and four Pounds a Year out of the three Regiments of Guards, that I must refer to Futurity; but am very sensible, that the greatest Part of it might very justly be deducted, by such a Regula-

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tion as aforesaid, which would likewise be of peculiar Service to all his Majesty's faithful Soldiers as well as Subjects; and not in the least detrimental to any Officers of real Probity; and the private Interest of the penurious Usurpers ought not, and I hope will not be regarded.

Not that I advise my Readers to judge of all Corps or Regiments alike, as the Populace frequently censure the Soldiers; but, on the contrary, allow that there ought to be a great Distinction made betwixt them; or more particularly, betwixt the different Dispositions of the Officers commanding those Corps; and provided they can't discover an excessive Inequality amongst the Gentlemen of the Sword, as well as in most other Professions, they will, doubtless, do me the Justice to own, that my Proposals are fully answered, and very much within Compass. However, in the mean Time I have the Satisfaction of knowing that they are so; not that I rejoice in the least at other People's Enormities, but that I have not enlarg'd upon their Vices, to render them more obnoxious; and my greatest Consolation arises from a Sensibility that I have represented them (provided their Names were inserted) with Equity, Justice, and Moderation, which all my Adversaries tyrannical Oppressions never had

had the Power to make me exceed ; neither could all their Force and Subtlety compel me to fall short of the Duties requir'd, and incumbent upon a Soldier ; but notwithstanding, I should have taken infinitely more Pleasure and Satisfaction in the liberal Arts of Military Discipline, if there never had been any Room for proposing such Regulations.

A certain Officer of Dragoons, who liv'd about eight or ten Miles from his respective Troop, order'd his Servant (who was a Dragoon) to call him up betimes one Morning, the Beginning of *May*, in order to see the Men exercise before the Review, and headed them into the Field, where they begun their Horse Exercise accordingly, when a Shower of Rain unfortunately happen'd, which oblig'd that valiant Officer to dismount, call for his Great Coat, button up the Cape, unloop his Hat, and stand with his Back to the Men, most of the Time of their Performance ; but once in about half a Quarter of an Hour, perhaps, he would venture to peep over his Shoulder, like a Rabbit with its Head out of a Hole, for his Face was muffled up as much as Lord *Foppinton's* as represented to be with his full Peruke, *i. e.* scarce two Inches Diameter. I had not made this Remark, but that I suspect there are several such Champions in the present Army ;

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therefore so long as they continue it may probably be adviseable to avoid a Campaign in cold or wet Weather.

I have observ'd in the History of that renown'd, brave *Generalissimo*, his Grace the late victorious Duke of *Marlborough*, that, notwithstanding his numerous Atchievements, the Government was pleas'd to call him to an Account, only upon a Complaint, or Supposition of his imbezzling a small Part of the Revenue intrusted to his Charge, which was but a Milk Score in Comparison to the immense Sums of the Publick's Money, that are now supposed to be imbezzled and ingrossed into private Purses. Whether that Government was more rigorous than the present, or more necessitated, by supporting a tedious, expensive War, that I don't presume to determine; but doubtless it must be one of these Cases, otherwise it may reasonably be suppos'd, that they would scarce have brought an illustrious General, cover'd with Laurel, to such a strict Examination, for such a Trifle, as, perhaps, even the inferior Officers (who probably never have seen the Face of an Enemy) would hardly be call'd in Question for at this present Juncture.

I don't question but that the curious, especially such as pay a just Regard to Renown and Merit, have thoroughly inform'd them-

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themselves of the heroick Actions perform'd by that victorious Commander; but nevertheless, provided this my first Attempt meets with a suitable Reception, I shall endeavour at a second Part, in order to excite all military Gentlemen to more eximious Actions, wherein I intend to give a more particular Account of his Grace's Trophies, with several other Observations, which perhaps may have escaped the Knowledge of the major Part of the Universe. I shall likewise endeavour to do Justice to the Characters of several other Gentlemen in the Army, who have distinguish'd themselves in Justice, Generosity, and genuine Bravery, as became Gentlemen of the Sword; and intend also to make more peculiar Remarks and Observations relating to a true Regulation of the *British* Army; and how to effect it with the least Expence; likewise to propose a more direct Method of paying Tradesmen, and to shew the great Advantages that may probably accrue to his Majesty's Subjects by speedier Payments, &c. which I hope will be to the Satisfaction, and worthy the Consideration of the Publick.

F I N I S.

